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# INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA—Part 11

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## HEARING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EIGHTY-THIRD CONGRESS SECOND SESSION

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SEPTEMBER 17, 1954

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Printed for the use of the Committee on Un-American Activities

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PUBLIC LAW 601, 79TH CONGRESS

The legislation under which the House Committee on Un-American Activities operates is Public Law 601, 79th Congress [1946], chapter 753, 2d session, which provides:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, \* \* \**

PART 2—RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\* \* \* \* \*

RULE X

SEC. 121. STANDING COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

17. Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

\* \* \* \* \*

RULE XI

POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

(q) (1) Committee on Un-American Activities.

(A) Un-American activities.

(2) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (i) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

## RULES ADOPTED BY THE 83D CONGRESS

House Resolution 5, January 3, 1953

\* \* \* \* \*

### RULE X

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

1. There shall be elected by the House, at the commencement of each Congress, the following standing committees:

\* \* \* \* \*

(q) Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

\* \* \* \* \*

### RULE XI

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

17. Committee on Un-American Activities.

(a) Un-American activities.

(b) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time, investigations of (1) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (2) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (3) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

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# INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA—Part 11

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1954

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*San Diego, Calif.*

## PUBLIC HEARING

The subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to adjournment, at 10 a. m., in the Chamber of Commerce Building, Hon. Donald L. Jackson (acting chairman) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Donald L. Jackson and Clyde Doyle.

Staff members present: William A. Wheeler, investigator; Mrs. Billie Wheeler, acting for the clerk.

MR. JACKSON. The committee will be in order. Through the authority vested in the chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, an interim subcommittee consisting of Congressman Doyle and Congressman Jackson, with the latter acting as acting chairman, has been appointed to conduct whatever hearings are considered necessary or desirable during the interim in the recess of Congress. Under that authority the committee is meeting this morning to hear the testimony of witnesses during the course of the day.

In the instance of the witness Mr. Richard Adams who, during a previous appearance before the committee acknowledged facts of his own membership in the Communist Party, but who declined to elaborate upon the names of those with whom he was associated or their activities in the party, the House of Representatives acting upon the recommendation of the House Committee on Un-American Activities subsequently cited Mr. Adams for contempt of Congress. In line with the policy of the committee to attempt to meet all fair requests, and upon receipt of a request from Mr. Adams that he be permitted to appear again before the committee to answer relevant questions having to do with his own activities and those of others within the Communist Party, the committee voted to hear him again and to authorize this subcommittee to take such testimony.

Are you ready to proceed, Mr. Wheeler?

MR. WHEELER. Yes, sir.

MR. JACKSON. Call your first witness, please.

MR. WHEELER. Lynn Akerstein.

MR. JACKSON. Will you please raise your right hand and be sworn?

Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before the subcommittee you will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I do.

Mr. JACKSON. I might say before the witness commences the testimony that the subcommittee will ask for the cooperation of the audience here in the room in not expressing in any way approval or disapproval of the testimony of any witness.

Proceed, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name, please?

### TESTIMONY OF LYNN AKERSTEIN

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Lynn Akerstein.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you spell the last name?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. A-k-e-r-s-t-e-i-n.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Akerstein, I see you are not represented by counsel.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Under the rules of the committee you are entitled to counsel if you so desire. Do you desire counsel?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Where were you born?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Glendale, Calif.

Mr. WHEELER. Where do you presently reside?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Los Angeles, Calif.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you please briefly give the committee your educational background?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I graduated from Antelope Valley High School, and then attended Los Angeles Junior College for 2 years.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you advise the committee of your employment background?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I did not work during my first marriage. In 1946 I went to work for Federal Housing in San Diego, worked there from May of 1946 until June of 1947. In June of 1947 I was employed as executive secretary by the Progressive Citizens of America and worked for them until February of 1948, at which time I became county director of the county Independent Progressive Party. I worked for the Independent Progressive Party until the end of 1948, at which time I went to San Francisco. I worked briefly for the California Labor School and subsequently for a department store. I worked for the Independent Progressive Party in San Francisco, and following that worked for 6 months in a cannery, and then for 6 months for the union of the Marine Cooks and Stewards.

I was remarried, and following the termination of that marriage I went back to school and studied shorthand and worked as a secretary for a construction company. I am presently unemployed.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Akerstein, during the course of the hearings held by this committee in San Diego in April of this year you were identified by several former members of the Communist Party as a Communist Party member in this area. Is their identification card correct?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.



Mr. WHEELER. When did you first join the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Late in 1946.

Mr. WHEELER. And when did you leave the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. In the summer of 1950.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you join the Communist Party in San Diego, Calif.?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. In what city did you terminate your membership in the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. In San Francisco.

Mr. WHEELER. What were the reasons which interested you in becoming a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. When I was working for Federal Housing I joined the United Public Workers Union. I had never before been in a position to be able to be a member of a trade union, and I felt very strongly about the importance of organization and the need to participate actively in union organization. After joining the local union I was elected a delegate to the CIO council. And I found that ideas that I had had for many years on the question of discrimination particularly, and on other questions regarding social conditions in this country and the need for attempting to better conditions for all people, I found that these ideas of mine were shared by some of the people in the CIO.

And I guess that as I expressed my ideas I came to the attention of people who felt the way I did. I became very active in the council, and particularly in terms of political action. And following some months of activity I was asked if I would like to attend a meeting where Marxism would be discussed. I did attend this meeting and following that was asked if I would like to join the Communist Party. It seemed to me at the time that the people who most nearly shared my ideas about the need for improvement of conditions for all people and the fight against discrimination in any form were people who were members of the Communist Party or who were in sympathy with the Communist Party.

I had no preconceived ideas about the Communist Party, I was neither for it nor against it. I had never been a joiner. I didn't know anything about organizations. So I did join the Communist Party, as I say, feeling this was a way to express my feelings for all people to live better and be treated better.

Mr. WHEELER. Do your beliefs now coincide with those of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No, they don't. At least, I don't believe that improved social conditions can be achieved through the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the name of the individual who asked you to join the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Blanche O'Brien.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you further identify Blanche O'Brien?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Mrs. O'Brien was a member of the CIO council, a delegate from either the United Public Workers or the United Office Workers. I think she was a member of both unions at various times.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall where she was employed?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No, I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. You mentioned you attended a class on Marxism. Do you recall where this class was held?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. In Lloyd Hamlin's photography studio.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know Lloyd Hamlin as a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I met him then, and he was later known to me as a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hamlin testified before the committee in the April hearings, and I would like to mention the fact that he was an operative for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the Communist Party, and not an actual Communist himself.

Do you recall who the instructor was at this particular meeting at the studio of Mr. Hamlin?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. As I recall it was kind of a discussion group, and I think that Mr. Hamlin led the discussion. I wouldn't call him an instructor.

Mr. WHEELER. How many meetings of this group did you attend?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. One.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you then assigned to a group or unit of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, I was.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who assigned you to this group?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No, I really don't remember.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the name of the club or group of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. It was the Morgan Hull Club of the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know how it acquired the name Morgan Hull?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I am not really sure. I remember some discussion about a name.

Mr. WHEELER. Morgan Hull was a leader of the Communist Party here in San Diego prior to your joining—he is now deceased—and they honored him by naming the club after him.

Do you recall how many people comprised this unit, the Morgan Hull Club?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. From 6 to 10 people.

Mr. WHEELER. And how long were you a member of the Morgan Hull Club?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. From the time I joined the Communist Party until I left San Diego at the end of 1948.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who the leader or president or chairman of this club was?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Lloyd Hamlin.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the names of any other individuals who held offices in the Morgan Hull Club?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The only other office that I recall was that of treasurer. This office was held by Lolita Gibson.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you spell the first name?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. L-o-l-i-t-a.

Mr. WHEELER. She is the individual to whom you paid your dues?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What type of individuals comprised this unit, their occupations or background, et cetera, whatever you know about them?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The membership of this group was an assortment of people, not with identical backgrounds, maybe pretty dominantly professional, but there were some labor people, kind of a hodgepodge.

Mr. WHEELER. Was there any effort to keep the identity of the members of this club secret?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.; I think that the people in this particular club were probably there because they had either personal reasons or reasons of the Communist Party some particular security problem it was desired that their membership be kept secret.

Mr. DOYLE. May I have that answer again, please? I couldn't hear the question and answer, please.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you read the question and answer, please?

(Record was read.)

Mr. WHEELER. Was it any particular advantage to the Communist Party to keep their membership secret?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Most, or maybe all, of the members of this club were people who were active in trade unions or in community organizations where they were not identified as Communists, and the Communist Party, in order to avoid being accused of dominating such organizations, would have felt it an advantage to keep the identity of the members a secret.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you given any particular security instructions by the Communist Party in relation to your own conduct?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well as individuals we would. It would be suggested that we not discuss our membership with other people, that we be cautious in using telephones and arranging meetings, and this kind of security.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you known to the rank and file as a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. To the rank and file of the Communist Party?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes, as a member of the Communist Party.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I doubt that I was identified totally within the membership.

Mr. WHEELER. An effort was made, then, by the Communist Party to keep your identity a secret?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. To some extent I think that is true.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the primary objective of the Morgan Hull Club?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. As I said, the club membership was composed almost entirely of people who were active in mass organizations, so that the objective of the club logically must have been to give guidance to people in this kind of work, as such.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you employed by Federal Housing when you joined the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. How long were you employed by Federal Housing after you became a member?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. About 6 months.

Mr. WHEELER. I believe you have testified that after you left Federal Housing you became an employee of the Independent Progressive



Party, or perhaps rather the Progressive Citizens of America. Would you explain how you obtained that position?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The Progressive Citizens of America was organized at a number of organizing meetings, of which I was very active. And the first big activity of the Progressive Citizens of America was to stage a mass rally in San Diego, and I was asked if I would like to accept temporary employment to organize such a rally. I did accept this employment on a temporary basis, and following the rally the executive committee of the Progressive Citizens of America decided to maintain a permanent office, and I was employed as executive secretary.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the main objective or purpose of the Progressive Citizens of America?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The Progressive Citizens of America was a political action group organized nationally and in local communities. A pressure group to work toward the election of candidates pledged to at least a minimum program for social betterment. At the time of the organization of the Progressive Citizens of America it was devoted to the possibility of the candidacy of Henry Wallace, at that time the possibility of his candidacy with the Democratic Party. As time went on it proved to be true there was no possibility of his candidacy within the Democratic Party.

Mr. JACKSON. Mrs. Akerstein, to what extent, if any, was your entry into the activities of the Progressive Citizens of America influenced or directed by the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, I would say to very little extent, really. I was very new in the Communist Party at this time and, as I expressed before, I felt the desire for political action for the election of candidates who would represent labor and minority peoples, and I think that I was interested in Progressive Citizens of America as an individual, not because I was pushed in that direction.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, did your activity in the Progressive Citizens of America meet with the approval with those with whom you were associated in the Communist Party?

Mr. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you recommended to the executive committee of the Progressive Citizens of America when you acquired your job with them?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. WHEELER. How many individuals were on the executive board of the Progressive Citizens of America?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Fifteen to 20.

Mr. WHEELER. And who was chairman of the board?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. A. C. Rogers.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Rogers has been identified as a member of the Communist Party in the previous hearings and, as far as the rest of the membership of the board, I don't think it advisable to go into it at this time.

Mr. JACKSON. As I recall there was. Is it necessary to further identify him? It seems to me at the previous hearing there was a senior and a junior by the same name.

Mr. WHEELER. Yes; there was.

Mr. JACKSON. I think the record should indicate——



Mr. WHEELER. It is A. C. Rogers, Sr.

Mr. JACKSON. That is, unless both men have been identified.

Mr. WHEELER. No; his son has not.

Did the Progressive Citizens of America merge at a subsequent date with the Independent Progressive Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes; it did.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the purpose of this merger?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, as I said, when the Progressive Citizens of America was first organized it was interested in the candidacy of Henry Wallace. When it developed that Wallace could not be named through the Democratic Party there began to be a feeling that maybe this was the time when there should be an attempt to form a new party, and through such a party Henry Wallace could be nominated. The various steps from one stage to another were taken to comply with the legal requirements to establish a new party, and at about the same time the Progressive Citizens of America held a national convention at which Wallace appeared and announced that if his candidacy could be effected only through the formation of a new party that he would be interested in such a candidacy. It was voted at the national convention, as I recall, that the Progressive Citizens of America organizations in various communities would decide on a local level whether to continue the organization as it then existed or whether they should merge into the newly-formed party, which in this State was the Independent Progressive Party. And following a petition campaign to establish the Independent Progressive Party in California the local chapter of the Progressive Citizens of America did vote to merge into the IPP.

Mr. WHEELER. And you automatically became an officer in the IPP?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The Independent Progressive Party employed me immediately as county director.

Mr. WHEELER. Going back to the Morgan Hull Club of the Communist Party of which you were a member, were there any other members of this club also employed by the Independent Progressive Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes; there were. Lloyd Hamlin was in charge of the petition campaign to put the Independent Progressive Party on the ballot during the primary campaign in 1948. Jeff Boehm was employed for a short time by the Independent Progressive Party, and Ernestine Gatewood was employed over a period of about 6 months.

Mr. WHEELER. And these persons were known to you as members of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes; they were.

Mr. JACKSON. Miss Gatewood is the person who appeared as a co-operative witness in the previous hearings. Is that not the case?

Mr. WHEELER. That is correct.

Mr. DOYLE. May I ask the witness there, what then happened was that the active members of the Communist Party became the active leaders of the Independent Progressive Party in San Diego. Is that correct? For instance, you said you were active and Miss Gatewood was known to you to be a Communist, and she became active as a leader for 6 months?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. It is true up to a point. I would want to make it clear that there were many people in the Independent Progressive Party, leaders, who were not Communists.

Mr. DOYLE. But the office direction was under the control of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. That is correct.

Mr. JACKSON. Now, on that particular point of the Independent Progressive Party, to what extent, if any, did the policies of the Independent Progressive Party deviate or vary from those which you became familiar with in the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The Independent Progressive Party had a State platform established by its State committee which established policy for the local organizations, and policy was not set on a local level.

Mr. JACKSON. To what extent did the policy set at the State level deviate or vary from the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, I would say that it was—

Mr. JACKSON. The reason I ask that question, Mrs. Akerstein, is that the witness Barbara Hartle in Seattle, Wash., testified before the committee several months ago that there was no fundamental difference in the State of Washington as between the policy of the Independent Progressive Party and the Communist Party, and in that area the members of the Communist Party exercised practically complete control over the formulation of policies and the implementation of policies in the Independent Progressive Party. I ask that question only to see if the same situation existed in some degree in this area.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, I would say that the platform of the Independent Progressive Party would have been considered a minimum program by the Communist Party, that it did not go as far in any direction, but that on a minimum basis there was similarity.

Mr. JACKSON. But that members of the Communist Party were in some instances in key policy positions?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. In some instances.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Akerstein, was the operation of the Independent Progressive Party discussed in meetings of the Morgan Hull Club of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes; it was.

Mr. WHEELER. What IPP matters were discussed in these meetings?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The things that were discussed would be problems surrounding organization of clubs, the whole organizational setup on a local level, organizational problems around candidates both national, State, and local, and particular campaigns to implement the work around such candidates.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you follow the suggestions in your work that came out of the Morgan Hull Club of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you deviate at any time from any suggestion or decision that was reached within the Morgan Hull Club of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, I think that I did at times. There would be discussions in the Communist Party club, but then the Independent Progressive Party had many clubs and these clubs had delegates to an executive committee, and there were fairly wide variances of opinion among a diverse group of people.

Mr. JACKSON. In the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. In the Independent Progressive Party.

Mr. JACKSON. In the Independent Progressive Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes. So that it wouldn't necessarily follow that discussions in the Communist Party club would be carried out just like this within the Independent Progressive Party.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you find any considerable divergences of opinion in the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Not in the club that I was in, which was mild.

Mr. JACKSON. Were you ever yourself made the object of disciplinary action because of your failure to implement the decisions of the Communist Party in your work in the Independent Progressive Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No.

Mr. JACKSON. Proceed, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Did the Independent Progressive Party sponsor any local candidates?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes. We had a candidate for Congress and candidates in two assembly districts in 1948.

Mr. WHEELER. And how were these candidates selected?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. These candidates were selected by—there would be—in the first place, the clubs and then the executive committee established minimum local programs to which we felt candidates should adhere. Around this program people would be suggested as potential candidates, and a committee of the executive committee would see these people, ask them their opinion on the various points of the program, and in this fashion candidates would be arrived at.

Mr. WHEELER. To what degree did the Communist Party control the selection of the local candidates appearing on the Independent Progressive ballot?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I wouldn't say that the Communist Party controlled the selection of candidates.

Mr. JACKSON. Were any of the candidates selected known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No.

Mr. WHEELER. According to the records of this committee, Dr. Harry Steinmetz was the IPP candidate for Congress of the United States. Do you have any knowledge as to how he was selected?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, Dr. Steinmetz was selected in the way that I just described. And as I recall I originally suggested the possibility of his candidacy. This was a suggestion of mine, it was not suggested by the Communist Party.

Mr. DOYLE. At that time were you a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, I was.

Mr. DOYLE. Active in its leadership?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No, I wasn't in the leadership of the Communist Party.

Mr. JACKSON. Where did you first make your proposal that Dr. Steinmetz be a candidate, to what group or what organization?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. To the Independent Progressive Party. I don't recall whether it was to this subcommittee or to the executive committee.

Mr. JACKSON. Had you at any time prior to this proposal discussed this matter within the councils of the Communist Party?



Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Not prior to the proposal. I think that the candidacy was discussed subsequently, but at the time that I considered—made this suggestion it had not been, to my knowledge.

Mr. JACKSON. And after you did make the suggestion it was subsequently discussed within the party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. What was the position of the party relative to the candidacy of Dr. Steinmetz?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I don't think that there was any actual position. I think that as I recall the only discussions that I specifically recall was after his candidacy was sort of a fadeout.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, let me paraphrase the question. Was there any active opposition within the Communist Party to the candidacy of Dr. Steinmetz, to the best of your own personal knowledge?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. There may have been, but, I am not sure. I can't—

Mr. JACKSON. You personally have no knowledge of any such individual or organized opposition within the Communist Party to the candidacy?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No.

Mr. JACKSON. I think the record should also show that Dr. Steinmetz appeared before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Los Angeles I believe 2 years ago. He declined to answer questions having to do with his alleged activities in the Communist Party, invoking the provisions of the fifth amendment. Proceed, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you at any time in San Diego hold any official position with the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you remember, were you on any of the committees of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the San Diego County Committee of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you at any time meet with any officials of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you identify the individuals you met with and their position in the Communist Party in the county of San Diego?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. When I was first a member of the Communist Party, Enos Baker was the San Diego chairman, and I on occasion met with him. Subsequently Bernadette Doyle was in San Diego, and I frequently met with her. She attended meetings of the club of which I was a member, and I met with her individually, too.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you meet with any other functionaries of the Communist Party in San Diego?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I think that on occasions I attended meetings at which Nancy Lund was present, and she had some official capacity, but I don't recall what it was.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the purpose of the meeting?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I don't have such specific memory.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall if you ever discussed the Independent Progressive Party with the functionaries you have just mentioned?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the purpose of discussing the Independent Progressive Party with the heads of the Communist Party in San Diego County?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The same purpose that I have previously referred to, in discussing the Independent Progressive Party within the club of the Communist Party to which I belonged on occasion, the things to be discussed, the problems of organization, of candidates, et cetera, would be taken up with Miss Doyle.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you think the Independent Progressive Party in San Diego County would have been organized without the efforts, the advice of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. It would have been rather difficult and much slower.

Mr. WHEELER. In your opinion to what degree or what credit do you give to the Communist Party in organizing the IPP?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, there is no question but that the Communist Party had as part of its program of activity a campaign to organize the third party.

Mr. WHEELER. You mentioned a Mr. Hamlin was in charge of the committee, a petition committee. I assume this was to circulate petitions to qualify the Independent Progressive Party for the ballot?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Right.

Mr. WHEELER. It was under the direction of Mr. Hamlin?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who circulated these petitions?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. The petitions were circulated by individuals, members of the Independent Progressive Party, members of Progressive Citizens of America, members of trade unions, members of whatever group we could find to cooperate. And the petitions were circulated, as well, by individual members of the Communist Party.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Chairman, at that point I notice—your answer—you said there was no question that the Communist Party had as its program the organization of the third party. I think that that is almost your exact words in the answer. Now, in what area was your knowledge of that? In other words, was that just a local part of the Communist Party program, or did it extend statewide or nationwide, if you know?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I don't know. I was familiar with what happened in San Diego, I represented the Independent Progressive Party on a statewide basis only in the sense of attending meetings and reporting back.

Mr. DOYLE. So that you knew that at least this extended to the State of California, geographically, this purpose?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No, I can't say that I actually did, because I have no identification of people whom I met at a statewide meeting.

Mr. DOYLE. Is there any question in your mind as to whether or not the Communist Party, as you knew it and as a member of it, was deliberately infiltrating into the Independent Progressive Party, as far as you knew?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, I would think, if you want an opinion, that if the Communist Party in San Diego was interested in promoting the establishment of the Independent Progressive Party then this logically would have been true throughout the State, and to whatever extent it took place here there would have been, as you say, infiltration elsewhere.

Mr. DOYLE. It is a case, Mr. Chairman, in which the Communist Party deliberately infiltrates other political parties in order to gain control if they can. The reason I asked you that question is because we are aware, and the result of our hearings and other evidence, that the Communist Party in America does deliberately infiltrate if it can. In fact, we know it is doing the same thing right now in California in both the political parties, it is trying to infiltrate both the Democratic and Republican leadership.

Mr. JACKSON. Proceed, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Akerstein, getting back to the Morgan Hull Club of the Communist Party, I believe you identified Lloyd Hamlin as a member, Blanche O'Brien as a member, Jeff Boehm, B-o-e-h-m, as a member, and Mrs. Gibson as a member?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Right.

Mr. WHEELER. What was Mr. Boehm's occupation?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Mr. Boehm was a writer who had at one time been employed at the San Diego Journal.

Mr. WHEELER. And what was the occupation of Mrs. Gibson?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I believe she was a housewife.

Mr. WHEELER. Who else were members of this group that you recall?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Mrs. O'Brien's husband, Jack O'Brien. They were in the group originally, but they left San Diego shortly after.

Mr. WHEELER. And what was Mr. O'Brien's occupation?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I think he was a physicist.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know where he was employed?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. At that time he was employed at Ryan Aircraft.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall any of the other members?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. As I recall, Ray Morkowski was a member of that group.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you spell that name, please?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. M-o-r-k-o-w-s-k-i.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Wheeler, I would like to caution the witness at this point in the matter of identities. If you have a personal knowledge that the individual or any individuals subsequently left the party I think it would be helpful if you would state that for the record.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I had very little knowledge of any of these individuals, now.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you further identify Mr. Morkowski?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Mr. Morkowski at that time was chairman of the CIO Council in San Diego. He was employed at Ryan Aircraft.

Mr. WHEELER. Was Wilma Crittenden, C-r-i-t-t-e-n-d-e-n, a member of this unit of the Communist Party?

Mr. AKERSTEIN. Yes, she was.

Mr. WHEELER. And how was she employed?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. She was employed at the—I think it was the San Diego Union, one of the newspapers.



Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, for the record I would like to state that Mr. Jack O'Brien is no longer in the aircraft industry, nor is Mr. Ray Morkowski.

From the employment description that you gave of these individuals it indicates that this may have been a select group of the Communist Party.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I am not sure I know what you mean by select.

Mr. WHEELER. You mentioned the security regulations. I mean, it is evident in the employment of these individuals that the Communist Party was endeavoring to protect them or protect their membership from the public?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, I think that was true.

Mr. WHEELER. During the time you were a member of the Communist Party here did you meet any other individual here in San Diego County as a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I occasionally met people. It is very difficult to be sure as to membership in the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Can you describe the occasions or the purposes that you met with these individuals?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, in my work as an organizer for the PCA and the IPP, as I said, I would meet with Bernadette Doyle, particularly, and sometimes there would be other people involved who would be discussing particular problems concerned with the work that I was doing.

Mr. WHEELER. Could this be termed as a fraction meeting of members of the Independent Progressive Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No, I wouldn't say so.

Mr. WHEELER. You are not clear in your own mind whether or not these were actual Communist Party meetings?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No, I am really not, and that is why I am so hesitant because it is very difficult to say this person is or this person is not, or was or was not.

Mr. JACKSON. The committee does not want you to make such identifications; however, I think in those instances it might be well for the investigating staff to pursue the matter further in the nature of executive testimony. Proceed, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Yes, sir. Do you recall the approximate date when Bernadette Doyle came to San Diego County as county organizer?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I am not sure. I think it must have been in the fall of 1947.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know the reasons why she was assigned to San Diego County?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. This I am not sure about, either. My impression is that the organization of the Communist Party in San Diego County had been rather loose and disorganized, and I have sort of a memory that Miss Doyle had been assigned here earlier and had been ill, and then she came—whenever it was, in 1947—probably to renew organization and tighten things up and—

Mr. WHEELER. Did you notice—

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Give more leadership.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you notice any change in the structural setup of the Communist Party after her arrival?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I think that there was more regard for security, more discipline, more attention to detail.

Mr. WHEELER. To your knowledge was anyone expelled from the Communist Party shortly after her arrival in San Diego?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, there were people expelled. I guess it must have been shortly after her arrival, I don't recall.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know the reasons why they were expelled?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. There were people expelled who were accused of factionalism in the party.

Mr. WHEELER. What do you mean by factionalism?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Of having ideas that were contrary to decisions made by the Communist Party as a whole, and attempting to carry out these beliefs as individuals or within what other organizations they were members, in contradiction to the expressed policy of the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Bernadette Doyle then didn't permit deviation or self-expression from the Communist Party line at that time?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I think no leader of the Communist Party wants deviation.

Mr. WHEELER. May we have a recess, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. JACKSON. Yes. At this time we will stand in recess for 10 minutes.

(A brief recess was taken.)

Mr. JACKSON. The meeting will be in order. Proceed, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Akerstein, I believe you have testified that your employment was terminated with the Independent Progressive Party in San Diego in the latter part of 1948?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. That is right.

Mr. WHEELER. Why did you leave the Independent Progressive Party in San Diego?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. After the 1948 campaign we didn't have much money in the Independent Progressive Party, and it wasn't practical to continue my employment.

Mr. WHEELER. Was the Independent Progressive Party considered a success in San Diego?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. We didn't elect any candidates.

Mr. WHEELER. After you moved to San Francisco in the latter part of 1948 did you renew your Communist Party membership, or rather, were you transferred to San Francisco?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I was transferred.

Mr. WHEELER. And did you become a member of a club in San Francisco?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes; I was.

Mr. JACKSON. On that point, Mr. Wheeler, I think it would be interesting to know the mechanics of the transfer, how it was accomplished, what your instructions were.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I think that it was kind of haphazard in my case. I saw Bernadette Doyle here before I went to San Francisco, and she told me to go and see someone at the Communist Party office up there whose first name was Louise—and I do not remember her last name—and I did; and a short time afterward someone came to me and said, you know, had heard that I was in town and assigned me to a club. There were no mechanics.

Mr. JACKSON. What credentials—

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Just my face.



Mr. JACKSON. Nothing further was required in San Francisco—further identification?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No. I have heard there were other mechanics, but they didn't apply in my case personally.

Mr. JACKSON. I think that the record should show that some highly interesting devices were used in transfers from one place to another. The witness, Charles David Blodgett, who appeared in San Francisco was given one-half of a dollar bill—the party must have been in better financial condition than the Independent Progressive Party—he was given one-half of a dollar bill to match up, in the best cloak-and-dagger style. He was then identified as a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you advise the committee of the unit you were in, the type of units, their location, during the period of time from the end of 1948 until you terminated your membership in the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. When I went to San Francisco I was assigned to a club of the Communist Party in the neighborhood in which I lived, and I was there for a few months and—

Mr. WHEELER. What neighborhood was that?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. This was in the Fillmore area of San Francisco.

Mr. WHEELER. Was it called the Fillmore Club?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No; I don't think so. I don't really remember the name of the particular club. Then I subsequently lived in Oakland for a time and worked in the cannery, and was assigned to a club that was composed of cannery workers in Oakland. When I moved back to San Francisco, which was in the beginning of 1950, I was not transferred. It had been simple from San Diego to San Francisco, but it became very complicated across the bay, and was not reassigned to a club in San Francisco during that period.

Mr. JACKSON. What was the date of that, approximately?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. In January of 1950.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, with the permission of the Chair, I suggest that we take the names of the individuals she met as Communists in San Francisco in executive session at a later time.

Mr. JACKSON. Very well.

Mr. WHEELER. Thank you. What were the circumstances when you left the Communist Party, how did you leave?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. In the summer of 1950 I was dropped by the Communist Party. I was called in by a couple of individuals and told that I was being dropped. As I said, I had not been retransferred back into San Francisco, and I attended no more than 1 or 2 meetings during that entire year of any kind. I, at the time, was very much disturbed by this, I didn't understand the reasons, I was not given any logical reasons. And some little time later I asked for a hearing which I was told would be done. The hearing was not held for several months, I think it was a period of at least 6 months that went by. And when the hearing was held I asked what the specific charges were, what the reasons were, and received no answers. I felt at the time, and feel very strongly, that there was an extreme of disciplinary action of causing people to adhere to a straight line, with not only no deviation, but no explanation. That to me represented the kind of totalitarianism that the Communist Party professed to be against.

Mr. JACKSON. Well, had this fact not impressed itself upon you previously?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Sometime previous. However, I would like to say that I worked hard in the Independent Progressive Party, I believed in it. And you get kind of swept away, you don't have time, or maybe I didn't take time to stop and think too much about individual actions as things were happening. Everybody's second guess is better than their first guess, and there were things in San Francisco in the party that I didn't like, methods I was in disagreement with, but it seemed very difficult to express disagreement. And as I say, when I was dropped and the whole thing was handled in the way that it was—and I saw this with other people, too—I felt that it was the kind of inquisition that just was not in keeping with the professed beliefs—and with the things that I believed, I believed then, I believe now.

Mr. JACKSON. From your efforts to seek reinstatement it would seem to indicate that you were philosophically in accord with the Communist Party.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I think that is the way it would seem. I also think, in retrospect, that there was a big factor of pride involved. I, as I say, had worked very hard, and the idea of being kicked out of something to which you have devoted so much in time and in thought and in work was very difficult for me to face up to, there was an emotional, personal reaction, and it took me some time to become objective about it rather than emotional. Following the hearing I was told that I could apply for further hearing, which I did not.

Mr. JACKSON. My questions in this regard, I would like to make clear, are not intended to force you into any recantation or repudiation of any sincere belief you hold. But I believe it is important for the committee and the people to know not what takes people into the party but what brings them out, the final dissolution, in what manner and method the party fails to meet the goals and the aspirations of people who do enter the party, and that is why I pursue this particular line at this time.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Akerstein, have you ever appeared before a committee prior to your appearance here today?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, I was subpoenaed by the Tenney committee in San Diego in 1948.

Mr. WHEELER. And what position did you take at that time? How did you respond in answering questions?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I didn't answer the questions.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you avail yourself of the fifth amendment?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, I did.

Mr. WHEELER. What has caused the change of your position?

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Wheeler, before we proceed to that I should like to ask several questions relative to the previous appearance.

Were you advised by the party to avail yourself of the fifth amendment?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. In 1948?

Mr. JACKSON. Yes.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Was the same advice given by the party to all of the other members of the party who were subpoenaed on that occasion?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I don't know personally.

Mr. JACKSON. But in your own instance you were advised to avail yourself of the amendment?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Thank you. Proceed, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you feel that you were sincere in pleading the fifth amendment, if you had cooperated would you have incriminated yourself?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I am not really sure that I understand the question. I feel that I was sincere. It is hard to determine to what extent you act on your own belief and to what extent you are influenced. I haven't been consciously insincere either then or now.

Mr. JACKSON. On that occasion were you advised that your cooperation might lead to criminal prosecution?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No; I don't recall that I was.

Mr. JACKSON. Of course, you understand that in order to take the provisions of the fifth amendment in good faith you must stand in very real fear of being prosecuted in court; otherwise, it is an improper use of the amendment, as I understand it. But I wondered whether or not you were advised that to cooperate with the committee would lay you open to criminal prosecution at a subsequent date, or might do so. As I understand your answer you were not so advised?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, as I recall, but I am not being purposely vague. I have a rather dim—

Mr. JACKSON. I understand.

Mr. DOYLE. May I supplement the chairman's question this way: Do you remember the reason given you by the Communist Party lawyer or leaders that you should plead the fifth amendment? What reason did they give you as being a justification, in your own mind, for pleading it?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, as I recall, it is true that I was advised to use the fifth amendment. It is also true that this was a principle of the Independent Progressive Party, that we felt strongly about the rights of political expression, political freedom, and the right to inquire, and it is hard for me to say to what extent I was told to plead this for certain legal reasons and to what extent it was a personal, emotional reaction, and by people who were in the I. P. P. and who weren't Communists but who felt the same way I did.

Mr. DOYLE. All right, counsel.

Mr. WHEELER. You stated that you were advised by the Communist Party to avail yourself of the fifth amendment. Would it go as far as being instructed to plead the fifth amendment?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I imagine that it would have been if it had been necessary.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you have any fear that you would be indicted and taken to court if you cooperated with the committee and admitted Communist Party membership?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes; I did.

Mr. WHEELER. You did at that time. Getting back to the question I asked some time ago, why have you changed your position? Today you have been very frank and sincere and honest and answered all questions, I believe, in good faith. What has changed your position from 1948 to today?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, I think from the way I have answered the questions that it must be obvious that the whole attitude has changed.



It seemed to me in 1948—to me personally—that no one had the right or the reason to inquire into my political beliefs. I also feel that there is—I don't know what the explanation is, really, whether it is a difference in me, but there seems to be much difference in attitude and a way of going about it on the part of this committee as against the Tenney committee. Maybe a different reason for investigating; I don't know.

Mr. JACKSON. Mrs. Akerstein, in light of your change in attitude personally toward the Communist Party, and in light of the action of your Congress in the past session in outlawing the Communist Party as a conspiracy, do you now feel that a committee of the Congress has a right to inquire into the area of political belief when that political belief is associated with the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I certainly feel that there is a tremendous difference in inquiring into and investigating something that is publicly known and acknowledged to be illegal, and something which is recognized as a legal instrument. And it is again my personal opinion that subversion should be defined, that if it is considered by the Government that any organization is illegal then it should be known to be illegal, it should be—there should be no possibility of thinking one thing and having something else happen.

Mr. JACKSON. In retrospect don't you believe that the purposes and aims and goals and aspirations of the Communist Party are exactly the same today, even following this official designation by the Congress, as it was 10 years ago, 20 years ago, that the conspiratorial nature and activities of the Communist Party have not been changed by the designation of a conspiracy? Perhaps I don't make myself clear. It is true that the committees of the Congress and other agencies have been investigating the Communist Party or the Communist conspiracy for many years. It was because of those investigations, it was because of the disclosure publicly to the American people of the nature of those activities that caused the Congress to take the action it did in declaring the party illegal and in outlawing it, so I think the record should show that those committee investigations which led to outlawing of the party, although repugnant to some, were nevertheless the physical agencies which brought about the action by the Congress. I say that in defense of the investigations. I merely make that as an observation, not a question.

I would like to ask you at this time, lest I forget it later on, whether or not there were any inducements made, any promises made to you in return for your appearance before the committee today?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No; I haven't been promised anything.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions. I would like to ask the witness if she has anything she would like to add for the record.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I don't believe so.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes, I have a few. Apropos, Mrs. Akerstein, of your statement that you felt that subversive should be defined, of course we have defined it. We have tried to define it openly and publicly many, many times, both in our printed literature and in our statements over radio and otherwise. But because you again stated this morning that subversive should be defined, Mr. Chairman, I think it

appropriate that we call attention to the group here that on September 19, as of September 19, there is a booklet which will be issued by our committee entitled "This is Your House Committee on Un-American Activities," and this is the only copy of this book within this room. Within a few weeks they will be available, as long as the supply lasts, to Members of Congress and to our committee in Washington. But this lists some hundred questions and answers to these questions. And question 3 I want to read, it is very brief:

What is un-American or subversive activity? Answer: That activity which attacks the principle of a form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution is un-American and subversive by seeking to overthrow by force and violence in violation of established law.

Now, may I just urge again, Mr. Chairman, the fact that this committee is not charged and does not intentionally go into the question of a person's beliefs, your personal beliefs are not what Congress is interested in, unless they are subversive as defined here. In other words, in going to the forceful overthrow of our constitutional form of government. But just in that connection, because I want to ask you a couple of questions, Public Law 601, under which this committee is here again today, charges this subcommittee with investigating subversive and un-American activities as defined by question 3 which I just read, and answer.

\* \* \* it is instigated in foreign countries or domestically and which attacks the principal form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution.

Then also this committee is charged with questioning you or any other witness—or any other evidence—on all questions relating to the subject matter of subversive activities which would aid Congress in any legislation. That is one reason we are here again this morning. We are interested to see if you and the other witnesses can help us, as a committee of Congress, to better know how to legislate in Washington to meet the Communist subversive conspiracy.

I made notes as you were testifying, I think you said substantially, "I don't believe the improved social conditions can be achieved through the Communist Party." Do you remember volunteering that statement?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. DOYLE. Now, remembering your statement about your interest in improved social conditions, when did you come to the conclusion that the Communist Party could not improve the social conditions as you felt they should be improved? You say you went into the party because you thought perhaps it was the channel to carry out your idealism politically, as I understand it. Now, when did you come to the conclusion that the Communist Party was not the channel through which you could achieve your political activity or political idealism? How long before you were expelled?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, I think that I started having doubts about certain policies and methods, oh, in 1949, maybe I expressed disagreement on occasion. The way I feel today, however, has been arrived at over a long period of time, and I can't say at this point I decided, you know; you build your ideas in whatever direction.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, may I ask you this question, because we are always anxious to get help of any patriotic, sincere citizen: Have you

any suggestion to us, as a committee of your Congress, as to what we might consider as strengthening legislatively, in the field of legislation at the national level? What should be considered seriously in legislation, if you have any suggestion, because that is one reason we are here; is to get evidence to help us do a better legislative job in meeting the Communist conspiracy. Have you any suggestion for us?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I am afraid I haven't, Congressman. I would have to think more seriously than I have in that direction.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, I am giving you a very sincere and emphatic invitation to think clearly and promptly on that subject and then pass on to us, if you will, your considered opinion. You have had experience that should be very valuable to your country and we, as your Congressmen—I am sure Mr. Jackson joins me in this—Mr. Jackson and I ask you to give us in writing in the next several weeks, if you would, your considered opinion in this field of legislation.

Now, I noticed also you stated that in this group that you were in, 6 or 10 people in the Communist cell here are anxious to keep it secret in order to not be charged with dominating community groups. I noticed you used the term "dominating community groups." I take it, therefore, that you had in mind that you and the other members in that cell were such leaders in the community that you were in positions to dominate community groups. Is that correct?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I don't think that is exactly what I was thinking.

Mr. DOYLE. But that is what you said, do you remember? I remember you using the term "dominating," and that is why I wondered if there was an effort on the part of the cell to secretly try to dominate other groups but to keep that domination secret as far as the Communist Party was concerned?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, yes; to some extent. This was true that maybe there was an attempt to dominate, or maybe just if it had been publicly known that a number of people in a particular organization were Communists there could have been charges of domination, with or without foundation.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, I noticed your last couple of observations, in answer to Chairman Jackson's questions, you stated that you had observed that this committee—I take it you refer to this committee that is back here today, and the House Un-American Activities Committee as a whole—you stated that you noticed it "operated differently." Now, apparently you came to feel that the functioning of your House committee or subcommittee, which is here this morning, was really acting constructively and in the best interests of our country, perhaps, was giving the witnesses a fair hearing and is anxious to get appropriate information. Is that true?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes, sir; that is true.

Mr. DOYLE. Have you any suggestion, then, as to how this committee should function differently than we are? We are anxious to be truly representative of the best procedure; democratic procedure; American procedure. Have you any suggestion? You are back here this morning changing your position entirely—manifestly you are cooperating with this committee. Now, why do you do that? I think it would help your San Diego neighbors to have a little more elaboration on that.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well——



Mr. DOYLE. When I say "San Diego neighbors," I, of course, mean all the people in the State. I think you are from Los Angeles now instead of this area.

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I thought I had tried to answer that question. I guess I don't know quite how to elaborate further. I feel that times have changed and I have changed, too. I also feel one thing on the subject of the committee. I don't think I am too different from the average person in lumping all committees together, and I have seen today what, as you said, appears to be a desire to be constructive, to work in the best possible fashion, and this strikes me as being somewhat different from the aims as I saw them of this other committee that I had experience with.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, may I ask you to elaborate briefly, at least, on—you say times have changed. What do you have in mind by that?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, very specifically I have in mind the fact that I think joining the Communist Party when it is a legal political party, recognized as such, and joining or being in it when it has been termed illegal is quite a major difference. And one's attitude must be affected.

Mr. DOYLE. I think there is one more question. Before I ask that question, Mr. Chairman, I think it might be appropriate for me to call attention to the fact that today here Mr. Jackson and I are on opposite sides of the political aisle in Congress, but it doesn't make any difference to us. We have this job to do here, as you see.

Now, I noticed you used the word when you referred to the hearing which you asked for, you said it was "totalitarian," the very thing that the Communist Party professed to be against. Then you described that hearing and the procedures as an "inquisition." Now, in any man's language that is a pretty strong word, and yet you used it. Do you remember doing so?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes; I remember doing so.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, is the procedure within the Communist Party as you meant it one of inquisition, was it in your case? If so, how did it function so that you felt justified in calling it an "inquisition"?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Well, I think my vocabulary was somewhat exaggerated maybe, but what I meant was when this hearing was held I was not told specific charges, I was not told who the people were who made them, although I asked. I was given no opportunity to admit or deny, it was just, you know, you did this, this, this, and this, and you are through. And it had seemed to me from what I had believed, or had wanted to believe up until that time, that if there must be disciplinary action within the Communist Party it should at least be conducted in a fair way with everyone involved given a chance to express themselves and to know what was being charged, and to defend themselves. And this did not prove to be true.

Mr. DOYLE. In other words, I take it from your answer that the same thing that we have heard in hundreds of other cases, there is totalitarianism and control in the Communist Party of America, and you suffered it without even being given a bill of particulars or a bill of complaints with what you were charged?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. That was my experience.

Mr. DOYLE. Then you had no chance to defend yourself by testimony or with witnesses?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. That is right.

Mr. DOYLE. That is why you called it an "inquisition." I think that is all, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank you, of course, on my behalf as a member of the committee. I notice you didn't bring a lawyer; I am a lawyer and I always feel a lawyer is a valuable person if he acts ethically and patriotically, so I do notice you didn't feel the need of having legal counsel with you.

Mr. JACKSON. Mrs. Akerstein, are you here under compulsion of subpoena, or are you here voluntarily?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I was subpoenaed.

Mr. JACKSON. I should point out one thing, and I certainly don't want it to be interpreted in any way as a threat or warning, but rather in the nature of a friendly reminder, that you are under the compulsion of a very binding oath in your testimony. And I should like to ask you that if under the compulsion of that oath you have told—you have given the committee all of the information in your possession upon which you have been questioned and the identity of all of the individuals whom you personally knew to be members of the Communist Party during the period of your own membership? Let me preface this by saying the reason I am asking this question as to laying such stress upon your oath, that it has unfortunately developed in cases in the past that witnesses acting out of a mistaken sense of loyalty or for some other reason have failed to disclose their close and intimate associations with others who were very well known to them to be members of the Communist Party. That, of course, is a serious matter, and I should like to know positively and affirmatively that you have given to the committee or to Mr. Wheeler in executive hearing the names of all such persons, without exception?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. I have not deliberately withheld anything. I cannot say——

Mr. JACKSON. But you were not attempting to defend any person who is known to you or was known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. No, I am not.

Mr. JACKSON. The subcommittee and the full committee and the House of Representatives under the authority under which we operate is very happy to have had your cooperative testimony. It is testimony of this sort, not only in San Diego but elsewhere throughout the Nation, that has made possible for the American people, probably more so than the people in the case of any other country in the world, to have a considerable knowledge of the Communist Party and its operations. That information does not accrue to the committee or to the Congress through the recalcitrance of those who refuse to cooperate. For that reason, and I am sure that Mr. Doyle joins with me, I want to express to you the thanks of the committee, and to express the hope that your friends, your business associates, those by whom you are employed will understand that you have rendered a considerable service in giving your testimony here today and will judge their future associations with you on the basis of that cooperation with the American Congress.

Do you have anything further, Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. WHEELER. Just one matter. Is the House Committee on Un-American Activities the first Government agency that you have talked to or cooperated with?



Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Should you be contacted in the future by other agencies of the Government will you cooperate fully with them?

Mrs. AKERSTEIN. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused. Call your next witness. Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Obed Rosen.

Mr. JACKSON. Will you raise your right hand and be sworn, sir?

Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee that you will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. ROSEN. I do.

Mr. JACKSON. Be seated, please.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name?

**TESTIMONY OF OBED ALEXANDER (WHITEY) ROSEN, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS COUNSEL, JOHN W. PORTER**

Mr. ROSEN. Obed Alexander Rosen.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you also known among your associates as Whitey Rosen?

Mr. ROSEN. That is a nickname.

Mr. WHEELER. And when and where were you born?

Mr. ROSEN. December 12, 1917, Chicago, Ill.

Mr. WHEELER. And where do you presently reside?

Mr. ROSEN. In Pacific Beach.

Mr. WHEELER. I notice you are represented by an attorney. Would the attorney identify himself for the record, please?

Mr. PORTER. John W. Porter, 112 West Ninth Street, Los Angeles.

Mr. WHEELER. And what is your educational background, Mr. Rosen?

Mr. ROSEN. High school graduate and 3 years of college.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you graduate from high school in San Diego?

Mr. ROSEN. No, in Marinette, Wis.

Mr. WHEELER. And what college did you attend?

Mr. ROSEN. Northwestern and U. C. L. A.

Mr. WHEELER. And when did you complete your education at U. C. L. A.?

Mr. ROSEN. Well, I left there to go into—well, the war started.

Mr. WHEELER. You have served in the Armed Forces?

Mr. ROSEN. The Air Force, as a flying cadet before the war, before Pearl Harbor.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, what was the period of your military service?

Mr. ROSEN. Very short, 2 months. I received an honorable discharge.

Mr. WHEELER. Thank you. And what has your employment background been?

Mr. ROSEN. An aircraft worker.

Mr. WHEELER. Let's say since you were discharged from the Army, how have you been employed?

Mr. ROSEN. In aircraft.

Mr. WHEELER. By what aircraft company?

Mr. ROSEN. Ryan Aeronautical.

Mr. WHEELER. What approximate date did you become employed by Ryan?

Mr. ROSEN. From August 27, 1941, until March 2, 1954.

Mr. WHEELER. What type of work did you do for Ryan Aircraft?

Mr. ROSEN. I was an inspector.

Mr. WHEELER. What type of work did you inspect? You must have been employed by a certain branch in Ryan Aircraft.

Mr. ROSEN. Metal products division.

Mr. WHEELER. Metal products division. Have you ever known a person by the name of Mildred Berman?

Mr. ROSEN. Well, at this time I invoke the privilege of the first and the fifth amendments to the Constitution not to be a witness against myself, and I refuse to answer that question and subsequent questions which attempt to police my thoughts and conscience.

Mr. WHEELER. Our information, or rather, the investigation conducted here in San Diego discloses that in June 1943 you made application for Communist Party membership. Is that correct?

Mr. ROSEN. I must reply with the same statement.

Mr. WHEELER. Also, that you were assigned to the Liberator branch of the bay section of the Communist Party in San Diego County?

Mr. ROSEN. Same answer.

Mr. JACKSON. For the same reason?

Mr. ROSEN. That is correct.

Mr. WHEELER. Also, that you recruited Ray Morkowski in the Communist Party. Do you know Mr. Morkowski?

Mr. ROSEN. Same answer as previous.

Mr. WHEELER. For what reason were you dismissed from Ryan Aircraft?

Mr. ROSEN. Again I have to invoke the first and fifth amendments.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you receive any—

Mr. ROSEN. And I do both.

Mr. JACKSON. And decline to answer the question?

Mr. ROSEN. Yes, sir; on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you receive any type of communications from Ryan Aircraft in regard to your dismissal?

Mr. ROSEN. Same answer.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you not advised that you were released because "The employee does not meet security regulations"?

Mr. ROSEN. Same answer.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you not afforded a hearing?

Mr. ROSEN. Same answer.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, the witness here, of course, was employed in the aircraft industry for a long period of time. I had hoped that he would cooperate with the committee and give what information he had concerning infiltration into that industry. However, because of his attitude, I have no further questions.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. No questions.

Mr. JACKSON. Are you now a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. ROSEN. Again I must use the privilege, and invoke it, of the first and fifth amendments. I decline to answer that. I resent the attempt to police my thoughts.

Mr. JACKSON. No one is interested in attempting to police your thoughts. We are interested in whether or not there was a concen-

trated effort to infiltrate a very important defense activity in this area. Do you have any questions, Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes. Mr. Rosen, in my membership on this committee I am also a member of the Armed Services Committee of Congress. Perhaps, therefore, I am quite aware of the importance of the aircraft industry in our national defense. I might state that recently the committee was in Michigan. There we had uncontroverted evidence produced that the American Communist Party had deliberately tried to colonize the automobile industry in Michigan by deliberately sending from New York headquarters, and otherwise, known Communists; even some of them college graduates, civil engineers, young civil engineers under phony names, assumed names, fictitious names. And these Communists of the American Communist Party, when they made their application for employment in the automobile industry of Michigan, signed phony names. They concealed the fact that they were civil engineers, and they took menial employment. Instead of taking employment or asking employment as engineers or high-class employees, they took employment on the assembly line where they could sabotage in case of difficulties in the world, they could sabotage and be the instruments of sabotage of critical machinery.

Now, I relate that fact because I want to save you, sir, that the aircraft industry is just as critical, perhaps more so in our national defense, as is the automobile industry. And we wouldn't be surprised at all if the American Communist Party wasn't doing the same thing in the American aircraft industry. I want to say to you that you have a right, of course, to stand on your constitutional privilege. I honor a man that stands on it in good faith, especially when he is so advised by worthy counsel. But you were in the room a minute ago and heard this lady come back and help us, you see, call the American Communist Party in California where you and I live an "inquisition." I just want to say to you that if you have been a member of the Communist Party, or if you are now, I hope sometime you will have a change of heart to the point where you will put your Nation's welfare ahead of your own when it comes to the Communist conspiracy. Mr. Wheeler wouldn't have had you subpoenaed for this morning unless we had good reason to believe that you knew quite a little about the Communist conspiracy in California. You are in a critical industry. My boy was a flier, when he was alive, in the Air Force, and he gave his life in the Air Force. But he didn't give his life in the uniform of an Air Force lieutenant in order that an inquisitional Communist conspiracy could prosper in the aircraft industry, of which he was flying a product.

Now, if you have been in the Communist conspiracy or are in it now, for God's sake get out. I don't hesitate to talk with you that way even in the presence of your counsel, because I am a lawyer, too. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you have any further questions, Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. WHEELER. No, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Is there any reason why the witness should not be excused?

Mr. WHEELER. No.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused from further attendance under this subpoena.



Do you desire to call another witness before lunch?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes, sir. Vincent Acanfora.

**TESTIMONY OF VINCENT WILLIAM ACANFORA, ACCOMPANIED BY  
HIS COUNSEL, JOHN W. PORTER**

Mr. JACKSON. Raise your right hand, please.

Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. ACANFORA. I do.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name, please?

Mr. ACANFORA. Vincent William Acanfora.

Mr. WHEELER. I see you are likewise represented by counsel. Will counsel identify himself for the record?

Mr. PORTER. John W. Porter, 112 West Ninth Street, Los Angeles.

Mr. WHEELER. You are appearing before the committee in response to a subpoena served upon you?

Mr. ACANFORA. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you advise the committee of your educational background, please?

Mr. ACANFORA. About 1 year of high school.

Mr. WHEELER. In what city was that?

Mr. ACANFORA. New York City.

Mr. WHEELER. And when and where were you born?

Mr. ACANFORA. October 28, 1913, New Haven, Conn.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your occupational background?

Mr. ACANFORA. My occupational background, sir?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes; please.

Mr. ACANFORA. I am a cook at present.

Mr. WHEELER. Yes; I know. How have you been occupied since the year 1940?

Mr. ACANFORA. Well, I have had a very extensive employment record and my memory is rather faulty. I can give you it rather vaguely. I have been working in restaurants; I have worked in various other industries. And perhaps if you could make the question more specific I may be able to answer it.

Mr. WHEELER. When did you leave the employment of Rohr Aircraft?

Mr. ACANFORA. In February of 1954.

Mr. WHEELER. February of this year?

Mr. ACANFORA. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. And how long had you worked for Rohr Aircraft?

Mr. ACANFORA. Five and a half years, approximately.

Mr. WHEELER. During that period of time you were in Denver for a short period of time; is that right?

Mr. ACANFORA. Yes, sir; I was.

Mr. WHEELER. And how were you employed in Denver?

Mr. ACANFORA. I worked in a couple of machine shops there.

Mr. WHEELER. And what type of work did you do at Rohr Aircraft?

Mr. ACANFORA. Patternmaker when I left.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Mr. Lloyd Hamlin?

Mr. ACANFORA. I refuse to answer on the grounds of the first and fifth amendments, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the National City-Chula Vista Club of the Communist Party?

Mr. ACANFORA. I refuse to answer as previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Under what circumstances did you leave the employment of Rohr?

Mr. ACANFORA. I refuse to answer as previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, Mr. Chairman, this is exactly a parallel case, the same as the previous witness. I have no further questions.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. Well, I noticed your answer that your memory was very vague. But I noticed when Mr. Wheeler asked you specific questions you remembered dates pretty well. I didn't get the idea your memory was vague at all from your answers. But I just wanted you to know that you didn't impress me as having a vague memory by your answers. You were here in the room when I spoke to the last witness, and I know you heard what I said to him.

(Witness nodded head affirmatively.)

Mr. DOYLE. And as an American Congressman from California I say the same thing to you. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JACKSON. Is there any reason why the witness should not be excused?

Mr. WHEELER. Not at all, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused from further attendance under this subpoena.

The committee will stand in recess until 2 p. m.

(Recessed at 12:05 p. m.; hearing reconvening at 2 p. m.)

Mr. JACKSON. The committee will be in order. The Chair will again caution the audience in the hearing room against any demonstration of approval or disapproval relative to testimony given by any witness.

Are you ready to proceed, Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes. Paul Sleeth, please.

Mr. JACKSON. Please raise your right hand, sir.

Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. SLEETH. I do.

Mr. JACKSON. Be seated, please.

Mr. WHEELER. Will the witness state his full name, please?

### TESTIMONY OF PAUL EDWIN SLEETH, JR.

Mr. SLEETH. Paul Edwin Sleeth, Jr.

Mr. WHEELER. And when and where were you born?

Mr. SLEETH. Logansburg, Pa.

Mr. WHEELER. And would you give the committee a brief résumé of your educational background?

Mr. SLEETH. Well, I went to high school in Pasadena; I went on to junior college in Pasadena, and I went to Santa Monica Junior College for a while in Los Angeles.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you resided in San Diego?

Mr. SLEETH. Since in late 1948.

Mr. WHEELER. How have you been employed for the last few years?

Mr. SLEETH. Well, right now I have been employed at the Goodwill Industries, San Diego.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Sleeth, are you acquainted with Lloyd Hamlin?

Mr. SLEETH. I refuse to answer that question on the grounds that—on the first and fifth amendment, and do not desire to be a witness against myself.

Mr. WHEELER. We are particularly interested in the professional group of the Communist Party which existed here, which in all probability does at the present time. Mr. Hamlin, in his testimony before the committee in the April hearings in San Diego, identified you as a member of this group, with membership date approximately 1950. Is Mr. Hamlin's statement the truth?

Mr. SLEETH. I refuse to answer that question on the grounds previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Carol Bayme, B-a-y-m-e?

Mr. SLEETH. I refuse to answer that question on the same constitutional grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Bayme also testified before the committee the fact that she was a member of the Communist Party and she identified you as a member of the Communist Party. Was her identification correct?

Mr. SLEETH. I refuse to answer that question on the grounds previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. DOYLE. Did you serve in the Armed Forces of the United States?

Mr. SLEETH. No, I didn't.

Mr. DOYLE. Were you—

Mr. SLEETH. You see, I did for, let's see, for a while I did. That was back in 1940, I believe. I was in the National—

Mr. DOYLE. I understood you to say no, you didn't.

Mr. SLEETH. I was mistaken. It was before the war and I had almost forgotten that I did.

Mr. DOYLE. I see. And in what division of the military did you serve?

Mr. SLEETH. I was in the National Guard as a—worked in the Medical Corps.

Mr. DOYLE. Here in California?

Mr. SLEETH. That is right.

Mr. DOYLE. What National Guard unit?

Mr. SLEETH. I think it was the 115th Medical Regiment; I think that was it.

Mr. DOYLE. Was it in Pasadena or San Diego?

Mr. SLEETH. Pasadena.

Mr. DOYLE. I didn't hear whether Mr. Wheeler asked you whether or not you were a member of the Communist Party at any time or not. Were you?

Mr. SLEETH. I refuse to answer that question on the first—grounds previously stated, constitutional grounds previously stated.

Mr. DOYLE. Are you now a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. SLEETH. I refuse to answer that question on the constitutional grounds previously stated.

Mr. DOYLE. Were you a member of the Communist Party at the time you were in the National Guard?

Mr. SLEETH. I refuse to answer that question on the grounds previously stated.

Mr. DOYLE. I am sorry I didn't understand your answer. Where are you now employed?

Mr. SLEETH. Goodwill Industries of San Diego.

Mr. DOYLE. And what is your work there?

Mr. SLEETH. I am a solicitor.

Mr. DOYLE. Solicitor from house to house with merchandise?

Mr. SLEETH. That is right.

Mr. DOYLE. The merchandise is picked up and then handled?

Mr. SLEETH. That is right.

Mr. DOYLE. That is all.

Mr. JACKSON. Anything further, Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. WHEELER. Nothing, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Any reason why the witness shouldn't be excused?

Mr. WHEELER. No, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused from further attendance under this subpoena.

Call your next witness.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Chairman, may I make this additional, I want to ask this witness if you were here this morning when I spoke to the young man, Whitey? You were here in the room, weren't you?

Mr. SLEETH. I would like to consult with my attorney.

Yes, I was.

Mr. DOYLE. You heard my statements to Whitey, who was working in aircraft?

Mr. SLEETH. Yes, I did.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, now, I am not going to take your time, and naturally under the circumstances, to repeat that sort of thing. But will you consider I am saying the same thing to you that I said to Whitey? Thank you very much. I wish you would.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused. Call your next witness.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. John Carpadakis.

Mr. JACKSON. Please raise your right hand, sir.

Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name, please?

### TESTIMONY OF JOHN CARPADAKIS, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS COUNSEL, JOHN W. PORTER

Mr. CARPADAKIS. John Carpadakis.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you spell your last name?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. C-a-r-p-a-d-a-k-i-s.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Porter, would you identify yourself for the record?

Mr. PORTER. John W. Porter, 112 West Ninth Street, Los Angeles.

Mr. WHEELER. I believe you represented the previous witness, Mr. Sleeth, also?

Mr. PORTER. Yes, I did. The record may so show.

Mr. WHEELER. When and where were you born, Mr. Carpadakis?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. In 1895, in Greece.

Mr. WHEELER. I didn't catch the place.

Mr. CARPADAKIS. March 13, 1895, in Greece.



Mr. WHEELER. In Greece. Are you a citizen of the United States?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. When did you obtain your citizenship?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Some time in August of 1918.

Mr. WHEELER. Was that in San Diego, Calif.?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. That was in Georgia—Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. WHEELER. Was it in the United States court in Atlanta, Ga.?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. It was Federal court. I was——

Mr. WHEELER. How old were you at that time?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I was about 23 years old.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you lived in San Diego?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Since 1944.

Mr. WHEELER. Prior to that time where did you reside?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. In New Jersey.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your occupation, Mr. Carpadakis?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Driving a truck.

Mr. WHEELER. Sir?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Produce truck.

Mr. WHEELER. Produce truck. You have your own business?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you been in this type of work?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Since 1946, the beginning of 1946.

Mr. WHEELER. And how were you employed prior to that?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I was working at the Consolidated factory, with Convair, the aircraft.

Mr. WHEELER. Aircraft company?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What type of work did you do for Consolidated?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Machinist.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you a machinist by trade?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Lloyd Hamlin?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I refuse to answer that question on the grounds that it might tend to incriminate me.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you familiar with Mr. Hamlin's testimony before this committee in April of this year?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I refuse to answer that question for the same reasons.

Mr. PORTER. May we take a moment?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I didn't read the testimony.

Mr. JACKSON. You are not familiar, then, with his testimony?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I am not familiar.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Hamlin, during the course of his testimony, identified you as a member of the Communist Party and a member of the Linda Vista Club. Was Mr. Hamlin correct in his testimony?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I refuse to answer that question for the same reasons stated before.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I am going to refuse to answer that for the same reason.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you presently a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I refuse to answer that question for the same grounds?



Mr. WHEELER. No further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. I think you said you became a citizen of the United States in 1918 in Atlanta, Ga.?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. That is right.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, that puts you in as a naturalized citizen with the same responsibilities that I have. I was born in California; we are both in the same class, then.

I know that you were here this morning, too, were you not, when Whitey was testifying?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I don't think I was here while he was testifying, Whitey. Yes, I was here.

Mr. DOYLE. I thought I saw you back there. You heard what I said to Whitey?

Mr. CARPADAKIS. Yes.

Mr. DOYLE. Let me say the same thing to you without repeating it, as long as you heard. But may I say to you, sir, it just seems to me that in view of the fact that the United States of America has given you citizenship you are in a little bit different way than we men that are born in this country. You folks that are naturalized by citizenship ought to see to it that you do nothing but honor the country that gives you citizenship. I feel that way myself, born here, and I hope you do, naturalized here. That leaves me to say this, sir, that I don't see how in God's name how a man naturalized by this country could think of joining the Communist Party in the United States. I remember what your answer was, and that is your privilege under our Constitution. If you ever have been or are a member of the Communist Party get out of it and do honor to the country that gave you naturalization, instead of being a party to a foreign conspiracy. I am talking to you as an American Congressman. I urge you to get out of it if you are in it, and if you are in it to get out of it and make amends in every way you can by serving the country that gave you naturalization.

Mr. CARPADAKIS. May I comment on that?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes.

Mr. CARPADAKIS. I think that must apply to you, because the Democratic Party, the party of treason according to our colleges, so they might start to investigate that. They voted for a new deal.

Mr. DOYLE. You see, Mr. Jackson is a member of one political party and I am a member of another. This is not a partisan committee. We are American Congressmen first and our job is to be American Congressmen first and Republicans and Democrats afterward. And your job as an American citizen is to be an American citizen first and whatever else you are afterward. But for God's sake get out of the Communist Party if you are in it.

Mr. JACKSON. Anything further, Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. That is all.

Mr. JACKSON. I should like to supplement what Mr. Doyle has said by saying simply this, that in the fall of 1947 I traveled through Greece, the Grammos Mountains, Kilkis, Drama, and Salonika. I saw the depredations of the Communists, I saw them drive their own people south where there were hundreds of thousands of refugees. We got into villages where the Communists had slaughtered many people

the night before. The worst situation I can see is you in the northern part of your homeland.

Anything further, Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. WHEELER. Not at all, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused from further attendance under this subpoena.

Call your next witness, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Robert Anguis.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. ANGUIS. I do.

Mr. JACKSON. Be seated, please.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name, please?

### TESTIMONY OF ROBERT SAMUEL ANGUIS, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS COUNSEL, JOHN W. PORTER

Mr. ANGUIS. Robert Samuel Anguis.

Mr. WHEELER. Please spell your last name.

Mr. ANGUIS. A-n-g-u-i-s.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your occupation, Mr. Anguis?

Mr. ANGUIS. I am a meatcutter.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, during the course of the last hearings we received a telegram from a Bob Angus, A-n-g-u-s, sports-writer for the Evening Tribune, and stating that he was not the Robert Anguis identified during the last hearings. And I want to make it clear that there is no connection between the two.

Mr. JACKSON. I believe the announcement was made during the course of the last hearings, but the record can indicate again at this time.

Mr. WHEELER. When and where were you born, Mr. Anguis?

Mr. ANGUIS. I was born in Douglas, Ariz., December 14, 1910.

Mr. WHEELER. And what is your educational background?

Mr. ANGUIS. Well, I was taken out of school from Douglas at the age of 10, and my folks took me to Yugoslavia. Well, that was in 1921, and I went in school there for, oh, a period of about 3 years, returned to this country in 1928.

Mr. WHEELER. And how have you been employed?

Mr. ANGUIS. Well, I first, when I landed in Arizona I was washing dishes, and followed the restaurant trade for a while. And then I came to San Diego in June of 1931 and I have been here ever since. I worked for a period, also, following the culinary workers line. At, oh, about 1934 I started working for a meat company and I have been following the butcher trade ever since.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you own your own business here?

Mr. ANGUIS. For a short period I had a business during—well, I was in company with another fellow worker, we had a little market for about 2 years, I believe it was. I don't exactly know. Then I went back to the job in the butchers.

Mr. WHEELER. Let the record show that the witness is represented by Mr. Porter again.

Mr. PORTER. The record may so show.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Mildred Berman?

Mr. ANGUIS. Well, I also at this time would like to invoke the privilege of the first and fifth amendments to the Constitution that personally guarantees me to the right of speech, to talk or not to talk, as I see it, the right to not be a witness against myself.

Mr. JACKSON. You would like to. Do you so invoke those constitutional amendments and refuse to answer the question?

Mr. ANGUIS. I do.

Mr. WHEELER. She testified that you were a member of the Communist Party to her knowledge in 1943. Was she telling the truth in her testimony?

Mr. ANGUIS. I refuse to answer on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. ANGUIS. I also refuse to answer on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the Communist Party in the year 1934?

Mr. ANGUIS. I refuse to answer on the same grounds as previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever know a person by the name of Nathaniel Griffin?

Mr. ANGUIS. Sir, may I consult with my attorney?

Mr. WHEELER. Certainly.

Mr. ANGUIS. I refuse to answer that question on the same grounds as previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Griffin, according to the records of the secretary of state, of the State of California, was the Communist Party nominee for assemblyman from the 78th district here in San Diego. Since he won the nomination of the Communist Party it was his privilege to appoint three delegates to the Communist Party State Convention in Sacramento in the year 1934. On this document appears the name Robert Anguis, San Diego, Calif. I would like to ask you if you were a delegate to the Communist Party State Convention in Sacramento in the year 1934.

Mr. ANGUIS. I refuse to answer on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever use the name of Robert White as a Communist Party name?

Mr. ANGUIS. I refuse to answer on the same grounds as previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know Mr. Stanley Hancock when he was Communist Party organizer in San Diego County?

Mr. ANGUIS. Again, sir, I refuse to answer the question on the grounds as previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Hancock testified before the committee in Washington, D. C., that he knew Robert Anguis in the Communist Party and that he went under the name of Robert White. Is that a statement of fact?

Mr. ANGUIS. I refuse to answer that question on the grounds as previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever reside at 1410 Robinson Street in San Diego?

Mr. ANGUIS. 1401 Robinson?

Mr. WHEELER. No, 1410 Robinson Street in San Diego.

Mr. ANGUIS. I am trying to recollect. I will consult with my attorney.



Would you tell me what period of time? What period of time do you have on that document?

Mr. WHEELER. 1934.

Mr. ANGUIS. Well, sir, to the best of my knowledge—I should remember all of the streets, at least—I never lived on Robinson Street.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you sign a sponsor's certificate on behalf of Nathaniel Griffin in the year 1934, as sponsoring his candidacy for the Communist Party? I will show you the signature.

Mr. PORTER. May I ask, Mr. Chairman, if the question just put is withdrawn? Or is that question still pending?

Mr. WHEELER. It is still pending.

Mr. ANGUIS. Which was that? I refuse to answer again on the grounds previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce into the record Anguis exhibit No. 1, "Appointment of Members of the State Central Committee Meeting at Sacramento in the year 1934."

Mr. JACKSON. It will be admitted.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. WHEELER. And the "Sponsor's Certificate" just referred to as Anguis exhibit No. 2.

Mr. JACKSON. It will be admitted.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Anguis, from this documentation and from the testimony of witnesses it appears that you have been in the Communist Party for quite a period of years, and we would like very much for you to cooperate with the committee. Do you refuse to help your Government in this matter?

Mr. ANGUIS. I invoke my rights under the Constitution as previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you a member of the Communist Party right now?

Mr. ANGUIS. I refuse to answer that on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. No further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. I wasn't sure, Mr. Anguis, that I heard correctly. As a boy 10 or 12 years did you go back to Europe with your folks? Yugoslavia?

Mr. ANGUIS. Yugoslavia.

Mr. DOYLE. You were there from 1910 to 1921?

Mr. ANGUIS. I beg your pardon, I was born in 1910, but we went to Yugoslavia in 1921. I stayed there 7 years, and my folks are still there, and I came back in 1928.

Mr. DOYLE. While over there did you make any observation as to whether or not the Communist Party was active over there? I am not asking you whether or not you joined or were a member of it, I would like to know as a matter of information.

Mr. ANGUIS. I would like to make an opinion, if you want. Would that be what you want?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes.

Mr. ANGUIS. I just want to make a statement that as a kid I was only interested in sports and things they had, I didn't know anything about politics, if that is what you mean.

Mr. DOYLE. I didn't know how far down into the young people of Yugoslavia the Communist Party was operating. I thought you



might notice among the youth of Yugoslavia the Communist Party was operating.

Mr. ANGUIS. I have answered already.

Mr. DOYLE. You were here this morning, weren't you, Mr. Anguis, and heard my remarks to Mr. Rosen?

Mr. ANGUIS. Yes; I did.

Mr. DOYLE. And Whitey?

Mr. ANGUIS. I was here when the witnesses were called.

Mr. DOYLE. You heard my remarks?

Mr. ANGUIS. I surely did. Yes, I did.

Mr. DOYLE. Without me taking time to repeat them may I ask that you consider that I have repeated those to you?

Mr. ANGUIS. I will consider it, sir. I understand.

Mr. DOYLE. Thank you.

Mr. JACKSON. Anything else, Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. WHEELER. Nothing at all, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. Any reason—

Mr. ANGUIS. May I read a statement, please?

Mr. JACKSON. No. You may submit a statement for the consideration of the committee, and if it meets with the rules which are prescribed for the admission of statements, it will be considered.

Mr. ANGUIS. Well, I would like also to give one to the press.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the witness this, as long as he is submitting a statement: Mr. Anguis, did you prepare that statement yourself?

Mr. ANGUIS. I sure did, sir. I sure did.

Mr. JACKSON. Call your next witness, please.

Mr. WHEELER. Raymond Foss Baker.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. BAKER. I will.

Mr. WHEELER. State your full name, please.

### TESTIMONY OF RAYMOND FOSS BAKER, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS COUNSEL, JOHN W. PORTER

Mr. BAKER. Raymond Foss Baker.

Mr. JACKSON. I wonder, Mr. Baker, if you would move closer to the microphone in order that the committee might hear you better?

Mr. WHEELER. Will counsel identify himself for the record, please?

Mr. PORTER. John W. Porter, 112 West Ninth Street, Los Angeles.

Mr. BAKER. May I complete the answer to my first answer?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. BAKER. I am more commonly known as Foss Baker.

Mr. JACKSON. Is that your full name?

Mr. BAKER. My full name is Raymond Foss Baker, more commonly known as Foss Baker.

Mr. WHEELER. When and where were you born, Mr. Baker?

Mr. BAKER. Nebraska, in 1904.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you mind giving us the month and the date?

Mr. BAKER. September 5.

Mr. WHEELER. And what is your educational background?

Mr. BAKER. High school, 3 years of college.

Mr. WHEELER. And where did you attend college?

Mr. BAKER. Northfield, Minn.

Mr. WHEELER. Was that the name of the university?

Mr. BAKER. No.

Mr. WHEELER. What is that name?

Mr. BAKER. It was not a university; it was a college.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the name of the college?

Mr. BAKER. Carleton.

Mr. WHEELER. Thank you. Would you give the committee a brief résumé of your occupation after leaving college?

Mr. BAKER. I worked as a steamship clerk, a hospital orderly, a trade-union organizer, and as a salesman. For the past 4 years I have been in poor health and I have been intermittently a part-time employee.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you resided in the city of San Diego?

Mr. BAKER. I do not reside in the city of San Diego.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you resided in the county of San Diego?

Mr. BAKER. Thirteen months.

Mr. WHEELER. And in what city do you reside?

Mr. BAKER. El Cajon.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your present occupation?

Mr. BAKER. I have part-time employment as a salesman.

Mr. WHEELER. Where did you reside prior to moving to San Diego?

Mr. BAKER. Michigan.

Mr. WHEELER. In what city in Michigan?

Mr. BAKER. Lansing.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever meet Mr. Wayne Salisbury in the State of Michigan?

Mr. BAKER. I invoke my rights under the first and the fifth amendments of the Constitution of the United States and decline to answer the question.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Salisbury testified before the committee on February 27, 1952, during the time the committee was hearing testimony in Michigan; he identified you as Foss Baker and testified under oath that he knew you as a member of the Communist Party. Was Mr. Salisbury correct in this identification?

Mr. BAKER. Same answer for the same reason.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you today a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BAKER. Same answer for the same reason.

Mr. WHEELER. No further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. DOYLE. May I ask, Mr. Baker, you were here this morning when I spoke to Whitey?

Mr. BAKER. Yes, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. And you heard my remarks to him?

Mr. BAKER. More or less, yes, sir. Yes, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. Well, may I ask that you consider that I am taking time now to make the same remarks to you without taking the time to actually do so?

Mr. BAKER. Yes, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. May I say this to you, that I notice you, in relating your occupation, said you had been a trade-union organizer. That

means you were more than the ordinary leader of men in my book. And I hope that if there was ever any affiliation by you with the Communist Party at any time that you will apply your energy now as actively against the conspiracy as perhaps you did at any time you were a member of the Communist outfit. It just seems to me that any man that is able to be chosen an organizer of any group of American men, has an ability that our country needs against the Communist infiltration.

Mr. JACKSON. Anything further, Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. WHEELER. Nothing.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused from further attendance under this subpoena.

Mr. WHEELER. Mrs. Raymond Baker, please.

Mr. JACKSON. Raise your right hand, please. Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. BAKER. I do.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name, please?

### TESTIMONY OF MARIAN A. BAKER, ACCOMPANIED BY HER COUNSEL, JOHN W. PORTER

Mrs. BAKER. Marian A. Baker.

Mr. WHEELER. And where were you born?

Mrs. BAKER. Minnesota.

Mr. WHEELER. Let the record show that the witness is represented by Mr. Porter.

Mr. PORTER. It may so show.

Mr. WHEELER. What was your maiden name, Mrs. Baker?

Mrs. BAKER. Piker.

Mr. WHEELER. And would you relate to the committee your educational background?

Mrs. BAKER. I am a high-school graduate.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you attend college?

Mrs. BAKER. Not as an undergraduate.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, did you attend college at all?

Mrs. BAKER. I attended a 6 weeks' inservice training program at one time.

Mr. WHEELER. At what university?

Mrs. BAKER. Michigan State College.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you been employed in the recent years?

Mrs. BAKER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, what has your employment been?

Mrs. BAKER. I have been a stenographer.

Mr. WHEELER. And that is both back East and here?

Mrs. BAKER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. And how long have you resided in San Diego County?

Mrs. BAKER. Since August of 1953.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you presently reside in El Cajon?

Mrs. BAKER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you presently employed?

Mrs. BAKER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your occupation?

Mrs. BAKER. I am a secretary.

Mr. WHEELER. For whom?

Mrs. BAKER. The La Mesa-Spring Valley School District.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you meet Mrs. Bereniece Baldwin in Michigan?

Mrs. BAKER. I invoke the fifth amendment and decline to answer that question.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the Communist Party in Michigan?

Mrs. BAKER. I decline to answer that question for the grounds previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you attended any Communist Party meetings in San Diego County since your arrival here 13 months ago?

Mrs. BAKER. I decline to answer that question on the same grounds which I have previously stated.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you today a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BAKER. I decline to answer that question on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. No further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. Mrs. Baker, were you here this morning and heard my remarks to Mr. Whitey Rosen?

Mrs. BAKER. Yes; I was.

Mr. DOYLE. And may I ask that you apply those to yourself as my hope for you as far as your American citizenship is concerned without my taking time to repeat them? And if you are engaged in any field of education—I understand it is your field—it worries me no end to have any people that are engaged in any field of education with California children, whether as secretary to the principal or whoever it is, so close to the Communist activity that at least they are subpoenaed before our committee. It worries me no end that anyone in the field of education, as I say, that is so close to the Communist fringe at least that they are subpoenaed by our investigators. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JACKSON. Any reason why the witness should be further retained?

Mr. WHEELER. I have no reasons, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused from further attendance under the subpoena.

Mr. WHEELER. Laura Stevenson Elston.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Elston, whom I represent, is not here yet. I believe she is on her way and I ask that her appearance be postponed until later in the afternoon.

Mr. JACKSON. I understand she is here. Is that correct?

Mr. PORTER. Well, I haven't had an opportunity to consult with her. May I do that?

Mr. JACKSON. The committee at this time will take a 5-minute recess in order to give counsel an opportunity to confer with his client.

(A short recess was taken.)

Mr. JACKSON. The committee will be in order. Are you ready to proceed with your next witness?

Mr. WHEELER. Laura Stevenson Elston.

Mr. JACKSON. Raise your right hand, please.



Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. ELSTON. I will.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name, please?

**TESTIMONY OF LURA STEVENSON ELSTON, ACCOMPANIED BY HER  
COUNSEL, JOHN W. PORTER**

Mrs. ELSTON. Lura Elston.

Mr. WHEELER. Is it L-u-r-a?

Mrs. ELSTON. Yes, sir; that is correct.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you known as Lura Stevenson previously?

Mrs. ELSTON. That was my former name.

Mr. WHEELER. Would counsel identify himself, please?

Mr. PORTER. John W. Porter, 112 West Ninth Street, Los Angeles.

Mr. WHEELER. And what is your educational background, Mrs. Elston?

Mrs. ELSTON. Eleven years.

Mr. WHEELER. Beg pardon?

Mrs. ELSTON. I didn't graduate from high school; I attended school for 11 years, 11½.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you been employed during the last 6 or 7 years?

Mrs. ELSTON. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you tell us where you have been employed?

Mrs. ELSTON. I am a waitress. Is that what you mean?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes. Where were you born?

Mrs. ELSTON. Nebraska.

Mr. WHEELER. And how long have you resided in San Diego County?

Mrs. ELSTON. Since I was 2 years old.

Mr. WHEELER. You have just recently returned to San Diego County; haven't you?

Mrs. ELSTON. We were on a trip; yes, sir. We leased our home here and went on a trip and returned.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you been back?

Mrs. ELSTON. About—I will have to stop and think. About—I am not absolutely certain; I could check back. Approximately 5 months.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Mr. Hamlin?

Mr. PORTER. Will you state the full name?

Mr. WHEELER. Lloyd Hamlin, Mr. Lloyd Hamlin.

Mrs. ELSTON. I refuse to answer on the ground that it is an infringement of my rights under the first and fifth amendment of the Constitution.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever held any positions in any union?

Mrs. ELSTON. Yes, sir; I was the business agent of my union for, I believe it was 3 years.

Mr. WHEELER. And during what years?

Mrs. ELSTON. These kind of questions are probably easy for most people, but I never remember what year anything happened. But it must have been about—

Mr. JACKSON. Well, within a year or two is all right.

Mrs. ELSTON. I really am not sure, but about—up until about 4 years ago, 5 years ago, the previous 3 years. I could check and get the information for you.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Hamlin testified before this committee in April that he knew you to be a member of the Communist Party. Is that correct?

Mrs. ELSTON. I again refuse to answer on the grounds that it might incriminate me, under the first and fifth amendments.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. ELSTON. I refuse to answer.

Mr. JACKSON. For the same reasons?

Mrs. ELSTON. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Our records show you were a member of the county committee of the Communist Party. Is that correct?

Mrs. ELSTON. I again refuse to answer on the same grounds.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you a member of the Communist Party now?

Mrs. ELSTON. I again refuse to answer on the grounds that it might tend to incriminate me under the first and fifth amendments.

Mr. WHEELER. No further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Doyle?

Mr. DOYLE. No questions.

Mr. JACKSON. The witness is excused from further attendance under the subpoena.

Call your next witness, please.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Richard Adams.

Mr. JACKSON. Raise your right hand, please, Mr. Adams.

Do you solemnly swear in the testimony you are about to give before this subcommittee that you will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. ADAMS. I do.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you please state your full name?

### TESTIMONY OF GEORGE RICHARD EARL ADAMS

Mr. ADAMS. George Richard Earl Adams.

Mr. WHEELER. You are the same Richard Adams who appeared before this committee on April 21, 1954?

Mr. ADAMS. On or about that date. I believe it was a day or so later.

Mr. WHEELER. I notice you are not represented by counsel. Are you waiving that right?

Mr. ADAMS. I shall act as my own counsel.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Adams, are you appearing here today under subpoena?

Mr. ADAMS. I am not.

Mr. WHEELER. It is correct, then, to say you are appearing here then at your own request?

Mr. ADAMS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Will you advise the committee why you desire to appear before the committee and retestify?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, at the committee's hearing in April I testified fully before this committee under oath pertaining to my own political background and affiliation. However, at that particular time I refused to divulge to this committee names of individuals, I might add

I have known in the past to be Communists. Subsequent to that, acting on the theory that I waived on my immunity, Congress—and I understand by a unanimous vote—voted to cite me for contempt of Congress at the behest of this committee. I feel that I am not in a position alone to argue with some 400-odd Congressmen. If they feel that I happen to be wrong in that respect the problem is not mine. If the people don't like the Congress they have they can change it this fall. So I decided rather than spend a couple of years of my life fighting Congress up to the Supreme Court, with the possibility of a conviction, and with the further possibility of all that is entailed, to answer the questions put by this committee.

Mr. WHEELER. Then it is your feeling at this time that you will be responsive to all questions asked?

Mr. ADAMS. I shall be responsive to all questions asked, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. In a cooperative manner?

Mr. ADAMS. In a cooperative manner.

Mr. JACKSON. May the Chair interpose a question at this time, Mr. Adams? Have you been promised any immunity or emolument or any other guaranties for your appearance before the committee?

Mr. ADAMS. Mr. Jackson, I have not, as you well know.

Mr. JACKSON. I well know, but I want the record to also reflect that.

Mr. ADAMS. The record may show that.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, with the Chair's permission, I would like to introduce as Adams' exhibit No. 1, the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives citing Mr. Richard Adams for contempt and referring the matter to the United States attorney for the southern district of California.

Mr. JACKSON. It will be admitted.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. WHEELER. I also request the permission of the Chair to introduce report No. 2458, 83d Congress, 2d session, entitled "Proceedings Against Richard Adams." This is Adams' Exhibit No. 2.

Mr. JACKSON. So admitted.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. WHEELER. And ask that the transcript of the previous testimony taken on April 21, 1954, also be entered as Adams' Exhibit No. 3.

Mr. JACKSON. It will be admitted.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Adams in his previous appearance before the committee testified rather fully concerning his background, his own participation in the Communist Party, and his own opinions regarding Communist Party theories. I do not believe it is necessary to reiterate any of this testimony, unless the Chair deems it advisable.

Mr. JACKSON. No; I think we can omit anything that was satisfactorily covered in the previous hearing. Mr. Doyle, do you concur?

Mr. DOYLE. I do.

Mr. WHEELER. Pardon me just a second. Mr. Adams, I believe in your testimony of April 21, 1954, you testified that you were recruited into the Communist Party in the State of Minnesota. Is that correct?

Mr. ADAMS. That is correct, sir.

<sup>1</sup> Retained in committee files.



Mr. WHEELER. What was the name of the person who recruited you into the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe he was the first Communist mayor elected in the United States, a fellow by the name of Emil Nygaard.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you spell his last name?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe the correct spelling is N-y-g-a-a-r-d, either a Swede-Finn or a Finn-Swede.

Mr. WHEELER. And how long were you a member of the Communist Party in the State of Minnesota?

Mr. ADAMS. From approximately 1935 to 1939.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you assigned to any groups or units or clubs of the Communist Party during this period of time?

Mr. ADAMS. My work primarily during that period of time was working with miners who were unemployed.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, were you assigned to any units of the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. Oh, yes; I was assigned to the unit in Crosby, Minn.

Mr. WHEELER. And how long were you a member of that unit?

Mr. ADAMS. I was a member from about sometime in 1935 until 1936, I believe, that particular unit.

Mr. WHEELER. One year?

Mr. ADAMS. Approximately.

Mr. WHEELER. And what type of individuals comprised this particular unit?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, this was a mining community. I believe that all of the members of the unit were either miners or ex-miners.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the identity of any individuals that were in this group?

Mr. ADAMS. Aside from Mr. Nygaard I recall the identity of a gentleman by the name of Raino Tantilla.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you spell it, please?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe the spelling would be T-a-n-t-i-l-l-a on the last name; the first name would be R-a-i-n-o. I understand that he was killed in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. I also can recall another person, a John Snyder.

Mr. WHEELER. S-n-y-d-e-r?

Mr. ADAMS. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Can you further identify Mr. Snyder?

Mr. ADAMS. At this time, no. I have no recollection outside of—

Mr. WHEELER. How large was this unit?

Mr. ADAMS. At that particular time I think there were, oh, anywhere from 25 to 45 people in it.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the identity of any of the others?

Mr. ADAMS. At this particular time I have no present recollection of the identity of any other people. This has been almost 20 years ago.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you subsequently transferred or assigned to another unit of the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, I worked for a time up on the border in a little town by the name of Baudette.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you spell that?

Mr. ADAMS. B-a-u-d-e-t-t-e, where I had no organizational connection with the Communist Party for a year or so, and subsequent to



that I went into Duluth where I was assigned to a branch or a unit.

Mr. WHEELER. And that would probably be in 1937?

Mr. ADAMS. No, it was later than that. It was in January of 1939, approximately.

Mr. WHEELER. Who were the members of this unit in Duluth?

Mr. ADAMS. There was a preacher's son who was the organizer of the unit by the name of Harry Smith. I recall 3 or 4 other people. A gentleman by the name of John Fisher; another—

Mr. WHEELER. Can you identify these people a little further?

Mr. ADAMS. John Fisher I can't. Another individual by the name of Sam Davis who ran for governor on the Communist Party ticket in the State of Minnesota back in the early thirties. Another individual whose last name was Gooler, I am not too sure of the first name, I think it might be Fred. And an Irishman by the name of Malcolm McIsaac.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall the occupation of McIsaac or Gooler?

Mr. ADAMS. At the time I knew him he was teaching.

Mr. WHEELER. Which one?

Mr. ADAMS. McIsaac.

Mr. WHEELER. And where was he a teacher?

Mr. ADAMS. He was teaching on the adult education program. I believe it was sponsored by the Works Projects Administration.

Mr. WHEELER. He was employed by the WPA as a teacher?

Mr. ADAMS. I don't know, it is possible he was. It is also possible that he was employed by the Duluth city school system.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the strength of this unit in Duluth?

Mr. ADAMS. The unit I was in at that particular period probably had anywhere from 25 to 50 members.

Mr. WHEELER. And is this all the individuals you recall?

Mr. ADAMS. This is all the individuals that I have any present recollection of.

Mr. WHEELER. What positions did you hold in the Communist Party during the time you were a member in the State of Minnesota?

Mr. ADAMS. I held every position from unit organizer to a member of the State committee.

Mr. WHEELER. And during what year were you a member of the State committee?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe it was during the year 1938.

Mr. WHEELER. And how many members were on the State committee of the Communist Party in the State of Minnesota?

Mr. ADAMS. At that particular time there were anywhere from 15 to 25.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you identify all the ones you recall, please?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, at that time Nat Ross was State secretary; Martin Macki was a member of the committee; and a man by the name of John Saltis. And at this particular time I cannot recall the names of the other members of the State committee.

Mr. WHEELER. You recall 2?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe 3. Nat Ross, Martin Macki, John Saltis.

Mr. WHEELER. And how did you spell the name Macki?

Mr. ADAMS. M-a-c-k-i.

Mr. WHEELER. Were they employees of the Communist Party or did they have other occupations, have positions in the community in which they resided?

Mr. ADAMS. I have no present knowledge of that.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know what districts they represented in the State of Minnesota?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, Mr. Ross was the State secretary. The other two people I do not know. I do not recall, if I ever knew.

Mr. WHEELER. I believe you testified you were expelled from the Communist Party in 1939?

Mr. ADAMS. I was.

Mr. WHEELER. Just briefly would you tell us the reason why?

Mr. ADAMS. Mr. Wheeler, I went into this quite thoroughly in April. May I refresh my recollection from some of my notes?

Mr. WHEELER. Certainly.

Mr. ADAMS. That I had at that time. Well, the expulsion was brought about mainly through a difference of opinion between myself and the Duluth leaders of the Communist Party over the role that the United States should play in the war that broke out in August, I believe, of 1939, in Europe.

Mr. WHEELER. Are those all of the individuals you recall in the State of Minnesota as members of the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. At this particular time those are the only individuals that I have any present positive recollection of. And I might add, Mr. Wheeler, that this has been from 20 to about 15 years ago and it is very difficult to search a person's recollection to try to dredge up people, particularly, that you might be positive of.

Mr. WHEELER. When did you first come to San Diego, Calif.?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe it was in September 1943.

Mr. WHEELER. Then have you resided here since that date?

Mr. ADAMS. I have resided in San Diego County continuously since that date.

Mr. WHEELER. I believe you testified in your previous testimony that you rejoined the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. I rejoined the Communist Party in 1943, I believe—1944, probably the early part of 1944.

Mr. WHEELER. Early 1944?

Mr. ADAMS. These dates, without going back and checking my notes, are approximate dates. I hope the committee understands that, because I am not trying to record back to the committee—

Mr. JACKSON. It will be understood that these are approximate to the best of your recollection.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Adams, I refer you to page 4854 of the official transcript of the previous testimony, and repeat to you a question asked by Mr. Frank Tavenner, committee counsel. And I would like to note, Mr. Chairman, that this is the first question of a series of 9 questions which was the basis on which the House of Representatives based their contempt citation against Richard Adams:

Mr. TAVENNER. To whom did you submit your application for membership?

Mr. ADAMS. Is that the present question?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes, sir.

Mr. ADAMS. I believe I submitted it to Fran Decker.

Mr. WHEELER. Is that Frances Decker?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, I knew her as Fran Decker, D-e-c-k-e-r.

Mr. WHEELER. And who was she?

Mr. ADAMS. At the time I was informed that she was secretary of the San Diego Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you assigned to a club or unit of the Communist Party here in San Diego?

Mr. ADAMS. I was eventually. It took a little time for my application to be accepted, and I believe I was assigned to what was then known as the Logan Heights branch.

Mr. WHEELER. And how long were you a member of the Logan Heights branch?

Mr. ADAMS. It was not too long a period; in terms of months, maybe 6 months. It could have been a year. There was reorganization that took place shortly after that, there was a general consolidation of various San Diego branches into a central group, later on a reassignment of people out of the central group back into branches. I couldn't state too positively how long it was.

Mr. WHEELER. How many members were in this Logan Heights Club of the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. I couldn't positively even approximate the number of members. The number of members that I possibly saw at meetings—well, it would be impossible to estimate, because at that time the war was on and people worked different shifts, and it could have been 10 members, it could have been 50.

Mr. JACKSON. What would the average attendance be at a meeting?

Mr. ADAMS. Oh, 8 or 10 people.

Mr. WHEELER. How many meetings would you say you attended of this club?

Mr. ADAMS. To the best of my recollection, 2 or 3 meetings.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall who was the chairman of the club or any of the officers of it?

Mr. ADAMS. No, I don't. I don't recall who was chairman of the club or who the officers of the club were. I was new in San Diego and individuals' faces or names meant very little to me.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall any of the members of this club?

Mr. ADAMS. I recall Red Hagen, who has testified before this committee, and the only reason I recall him was my recollection was refreshed by conferences in my offices prior to his testimony here, and also introducing him to Mr. Wheeler. I also recall Morgan Hull a member of this local.

Mr. WHEELER. Is Red Hagen known as Oliver Hagen?

Mr. ADAMS. That is correct; O. B. Hagen.

Mr. WHEELER. Was William Pope a member of this club?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe he was, and his wife Beverly.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, you knew both William Pope and Beverly Pope as members of the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. I did.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall anyone else?

Mr. ADAMS. Not of the Logan Heights branch. That is your reference at this particular time?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes. Do you recall who assigned you to the Logan Heights branch?

Mr. ADAMS. No, I do not, but I believe Frances Decker or Morgan Hull, 1 of the 2.



Mr. JACKSON. The record should show at this time that the Frances Decker mentioned in the testimony appeared before the committee in Washington, D. C., some months ago and declined to answer any questions having to do with her alleged Communist Party activity, taking the provisions of the fifth amendment as her grounds for not answering.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Adams, I recall your testifying that it could have been 6 months to a year that you remained a member of the Logan Heights branch. And what happened after you left this branch?

Mr. ADAMS. I was transferred again to a larger group, I believe, and then shortly thereafter transferred to a South Bay unit.

Mr. WHEELER. Would this be the Communist Political Association?

Mr. ADAMS. It is possible that it was.

Mr. WHEELER. Where did the Communist Political Association meet?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, the meetings I attended, I believe, were in a hall on 12th Street or 11th Street. I don't know the name of the hall or the address, here in the city of San Diego.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall any of the members of this large group or unit?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, primarily I can recall the members of the executive committee, who were George Lohr, Enos Baker, Nancy Rosenfeld, Lura Stevenson, Josephine Benson, Lloyd Hamlin, Dave Buchanan.

Mr. WHEELER. This is the executive committee of the Communist Political Association?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, for the time being the executive committee of the Communist Political Association. And then the association was disbanded and the Communist Party was reorganized.

Mr. WHEELER. I believe you testified in your previous testimony that you were elected to the executive committee of San Diego County?

Mr. ADAMS. I was.

Mr. WHEELER. That was during the year 1944-45?

Mr. ADAMS. That is correct. So some of these names, Mr. Wheeler, if I may interject, were doubtlessly members of the committee at the time of my election, probably some of them were members of the committee at the time of the association, and possibly some of them after the disbandment of the association.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you further describe George Lohr?

Mr. ADAMS. He was the chairman of the San Diego Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Enos Baker?

Mr. ADAMS. I don't know particularly what his job was.

Mr. WHEELER. Nancy Rosenfeld?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe she was a clerk of some kind in the offices of the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. Was she also known as Nancy Rosenfeld Lund, L-u-n-d?

Mr. ADAMS. I have no knowledge of that, I have no personal knowledge of that.

Mr. WHEELER. Lura Stevenson?

Mr. ADAMS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, what was her occupation? Could you further describe her?



Mr. ADAMS. Well, Lura Stevenson testified before I did, I believe she said she was business agent for the Cooks and Waitresses Union, and I believe that was her occupation at the time that I knew her.

Mr. WHEELER. Josephine Benson?

Mr. ADAMS. She was also a business agent for the Cooks and Waitresses Union.

Mr. WHEELER. David Buchanan?

Mr. ADAMS. I believe he was in the building trades.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know Ray Morkowski?

Mr. ADAMS. The name Ray Morkowski is familiar.

Mr. WHEELER. Was he a member of the central committee?

Mr. ADAMS. At this time I have no present recollection whether he was or not.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you know him to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. At this time I have no present recollection whether he was a member or not.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, he has been previously identified.

What was the period of time you were a member of the Communist Political Association?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, I have to go back and check a lot of notes to make an exact determination when the Communist Party was disbanded and when it was reinstated, but I believe the Communist Party was reorganized sometime in 1945.

Mr. JACKSON. Membership was continuous in the Communist Political Association until the reconstitution of the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, the Communist Political Association was a figment of the imagination of Earl Browder, and when Browder went out the political association went along with him.

Mr. JACKSON. What I mean to say, your membership was continuous through that period?

Mr. ADAMS. From 1944 to 1946; yes.

Mr. WHEELER. You testified, Mr. Adams, you then became a member of the South Bay branch?

Mr. ADAMS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What period of time were you a member of this club?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, that was probably the latter part of 1945 and part of 1946.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you remain a member of this club until you left the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. I remained a member of that club until I was expelled by the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. At that period of time you resided in National City?

Mr. ADAMS. I did.

Mr. WHEELER. And that South Bay Club——

Mr. ADAMS. I believe it encompassed everything south of the San Diego city line.

Mr. WHEELER. And what was the membership of this club?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, it was somewhat smaller than the Logan Heights Club. My impression was 10 or 12 people.

Mr. WHEELER. Could you identify the members that you presently recall?

MR. ADAMS. The only people that I have a present recollection of were John Lang, his wife, Mrs. John Lang—I believe her first name is Rita—a woman by the name of Honja Lewie.

MR. WHEELER. Would you spell that, please?

MR. ADAMS. I believe her first name is H-o-n-j-a, last name L-e-w-i-e; and a gentleman by the name of W. L. Edwards.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall the occupation of the latter two individuals?

MR. ADAMS. Mr. Edwards was retired. Honja Lewie, I did not know her occupation.

MR. WHEELER. That is all the members that you recall in this branch?

MR. ADAMS. To the best of my present recollection, yes; Mr. Wheeler.

MR. WHEELER. Mr. Adams, this next question was previously asked by Mr. Tavenner, and is the second of a series of nine questions which were the basis of citing you for contempt of Congress, on page 4857 of the official transcript. Quoting the record:

MR. TAVENNER. Who was in charge of the recruitment of new members or the work of recruitment of new members from the executive committee of the Communist Party?

MR. ADAMS. Well, primarily the person responsible for the recruitment of new members would be the head of the party in the county who, at the time I was a member, would be either Morgan Hull or George Lohr.

MR. WHEELER. Mr. Adams, I will repeat this question asked of you by Mr. Tavenner, and it is the third question that was used as a basis of citing you for contempt.

This appears on page 4857 of the official transcript.

MR. TAVENNER. Who was in charge of the work of distribution of Communist Party literature?

MR. ADAMS. I can't answer that question because at this particular time I cannot recall who might have been assigned from the central committee to the literature distribution.

MR. WHEELER. When you testified before the committee previously I believe you listed in your employment that you were a manager of a book store here in San Diego?

MR. ADAMS. Yes; I did.

MR. WHEELER. What book store is that?

MR. ADAMS. It was known as the Community Book Store.

MR. WHEELER. Was it a Communist Party book store?

MR. ADAMS. Well, I don't know whether it was a Communist Party book store, it was owned by the corporation that was organized back in the late twenties or early thirties. It handled all types of Communist literature, along with a lot of other stuff.

MR. WHEELER. How did you obtain this position?

MR. ADAMS. I was assigned to it by the central committee of the Communist Party.

MR. WHEELER. The Communist Party had a deciding interest in this book store, then?

MR. ADAMS. To the extent that they were in a position to appoint the manager; yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Where did you get the literature that was sold at this book store?

Mr. ADAMS. Primarily from a distributor in San Francisco.

Mr. WHEELER. Who was that?

Mr. ADAMS. At this time I wouldn't be able to recall the name of the firm that sold us literature.

Mr. WHEELER. Mr. Adams, this is the fourth of the series of nine questions which was used as the basis for the contempt citation. This is repeating from page 4857 of the official transcript:

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was head of the Communist Party at the time you were a member of the executive committee, that is, the head of the party in San Diego County?

Mr. ADAMS. At the time I joined I believe Fran Decker was; later on Morgan Hull was, and subsequent to Morgan Hull I believe George Lohr.

Mr. WHEELER. I will repeat a question asked by Mr. Tavenner at the previous hearing. This is the fifth of the series of questions. It appears on page 4853 of the transcript. I don't know whether you can pick this up or not. The question is:

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was head of the Communist Party in San Diego County at the time this action was taken——

Mr. ADAMS. What action is he referring to?

Mr. WHEELER. I thought you might recall that. I will have to check back.

Mr. ADAMS. No; I don't.

Mr. WHEELER. It was referring to your expulsion from the Communist Party.

Mr. ADAMS. George Lohr.

Mr. WHEELER. In regard to expulsion from the Communist Party how were you notified?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, I was notified I was dropped by Mr. Lohr, and subsequent to that time I was notified by his wife that I had been expelled.

Mr. WHEELER. His wife. Would you identify her?

Mr. ADAMS. Helga Weigert.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you offered a hearing?

Mr. ADAMS. I did not ask for one.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you offered one?

Mr. ADAMS. There was no offer made.

Mr. WHEELER. Did they advise you the reasons why you were expelled?

Mr. ADAMS. I did not ask the reasons, there was no advice given on that score.

Mr. WHEELER. However, you accepted their decision without comment?

Mr. ADAMS. I knew what the reasons were.

Mr. JACKSON. Did you yourself know of the reason why you had been expelled?

Mr. ADAMS. I did.

Mr. JACKSON. What was that reason?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, once more, it was a difference of opinion between myself and the leaders of the San Diego Communist Party, primarily—the primary reason being a difference of opinion on policy.

Mr. JACKSON. You were showing a lot of individuality for a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. I always show individuality, Mr. Jackson, whether I am meeting with the Communist Party or a Congressman.

Mr. JACKSON. We are aware of that. Was it apparent to you that further breaches of discipline of that kind would probably result in your expulsion?

Mr. ADAMS. Absolutely.

Mr. JACKSON. It already having occurred on one occasion?

Mr. ADAMS. Absolutely. I fully understood, and have always. And I might say that I have made a 20—more than a 20-year study of communism, and it is a fact that the Communist Party, being a monolithic party, cannot tolerate or cannot afford to have people inside of the Communist Party that do not believe in the program, the aim or the objective of the party. And I might say that in the past the Democratic Party has tried to do the same thing by trying to purge some of the Southerners and they have had a hard time trying to do it. And the same thing holds true with any political party, unless you agree with the aims, objectives, activities of any organization you are going to have to get out of the organization or take it over, there will be no room for the——

Mr. JACKSON. A lot of that argument——

Mr. ADAMS. The Republican and Democratic Party is not a revolutionary party.

Mr. WHEELER. You have already answered this question, Mr. Adams. However, I would like to repeat it, it is the sixth of the nine questions for which you were cited for contempt; it appears on page 4863. And I repeat the question, it is by Congressman Jackson:

Mr. JACKSON. Who was the person who notified you of your expulsion from the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. The person who notified me of my being dropped was Mr. Lohr and his wife, Mrs. Lohr, or Helga Weigert, notified me quite some time later that I was expelled. And by the way, I never knew Helga Weigert as a Communist.

Mr. JACKSON. But she notified you that you had been expelled from the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. I assumed she was bringing the message from her husband.

Mr. JACKSON. A reasonable assumption under the circumstances?

Mr. ADAMS. Yes, a very reasonable assumption.

Mr. WHEELER. The next question which will be repeated, questions 7, 8, and 9, which concludes the series of 9 questions for which Congress cited you for contempt, on page 4863 to 4865, No. 7:

Mr. TAVENNER. Was George Lohr the one who notified you you were dropped from the Communist Party?

Mr. ADAMS. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. The next question:

Mr. TAVENNER. Was George Lohr the head of the Communist Party in San Diego at that time?

Mr. ADAMS. Yes.



Mr. WHEELER. No. 9:

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, all you know regarding the activities in the Communist Party of George Lohr in San Diego, if you know of such activities?

Mr. ADAMS. Well, that would probably take a whole volume and an hour's testimony. George Lohr was transferred into San Diego as the San Diego chairman; from where I do not know. I believe he came into San Diego in the middle of 1945. When he left San Diego I have no knowledge, because I was not a member of the party at that time. During his tenure of office or his tour of duty he served as the spokesman or chairman or head of the San Diego County Communist Party. And during the period of the Political Association, head of that association.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you know of his present whereabouts?

Mr. ADAMS. Simply from hearsay. I was informed by the press that George Lohr and Helga Weigert were in Czechoslovakia. George Lohr told me he was born in New York, had been taken back to Germany as a child, had got out of Germany after the advent of coming to power of Hitler, and came back to his native country. Also, other things that he told me led me to believe that he had a lot of help doing a lot of things that he was doing, besides the help he was getting from the Communist Party. I frankly always suspected him of being in the employ of the FBI or of the State Department.

Mr. WHEELER. That information, a guess by the witness, might be an injustice to the person you are discussing in San Diego.

Mr. ADAMS. It shouldn't be.

Mr. WHEELER. I would like to refer you to part 2 of the hearings, Investigation of Communist Activities in the State of California, 4611, the testimony of Mr. Benjamin Haddock, H-a-d-d-o-c-k. Were you ever acquainted with Mr. Haddock?

Mr. ADAMS. I have no present recollection of ever having met the man.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, he testified in Washington to the effect he was a member of the Communist Party here in San Diego. And Mr. Tavenner is doing the questioning, and I would like to repeat this portion of the testimony. [Reading:]

Will you give us the names, please, and all the identifying information you can regarding the Communist Party membership of any other person other than you have already named where you have direct knowledge of your own indicating Communist Party membership?

Mr. HADDOCK. Richard Adams, who was the party functionary to come to me and get me to sign the application card for my 1946 membership. I was sick at the time and so he came to my home. I have never seen him since or before. And he later ran for office in National City and was elected.

Do you recall that incident?

Mr. ADAMS. I do not, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. WHEELER. Was it part of your duties as a member of the Communist Party to reregister people or to obtain their applications?

Mr. ADAMS. It probably was; it is entirely possible that I did. But I would not know Mr. Haddock if I met him in the street and I don't recollect his name.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, if you did that type of work you would have been in possession of a list of a great number of people who were

members of the Communist Party in San Diego. Would that be correct?

MR. ADAMS. Well, not a great number. It is possible that—I don't know which branch he belonged to. I might have been given a list by the county office of a few people that were sick and couldn't come in and asked to contact them, and possibly that is one of those events. He said he was ill. From time to time I have been in possession of lists of great numbers of people.

MR. WHEELER. Would you be able to identify any other individuals who were members of the Communist Party in San Diego?

MR. ADAMS. Not at this particular time. I couldn't even identify Mr. Haddock. If you want to refresh my recollection with the individual names that you might have, possibly that might—

MR. WHEELER. I believe you testified in your previous testimony that you wrote for the Federated Press in San Diego. Is that correct?

MR. ADAMS. I was stringman for a while for the Federated Press.

MR. WHEELER. How did you acquire that position?

MR. ADAMS. I think I was either hired by mail, or the Los Angeles editor came down and made arrangements for me to write material for them. I don't recall.

MR. WHEELER. Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions.

MR. JACKSON. Mr. Doyle, do you have any questions?

MR. DOYLE. Of course, I remember very well, Mr. Adams, your appearance in April of this year here. I am very glad, as a Member of Congress, that you have come back to help us with this information. I will be perfectly frank with you, I remember Mr. Wheeler's question to you a few minutes ago in asking how it came about that you were back with us today, I remember that you related that you felt you were not in a position alone to go against the opinion of 435 Members of the House of Representatives. I always wonder the extent to which people who volunteer or cooperate with us do so because they feel it is their patriotic duty. I know you answered Mr. Wheeler's question rather briefly, but you didn't relate that as one of the reasons as being any patriotic motive on your part.

MR. ADAMS. May I answer your question, Congressman?

MR. DOYLE. Certainly.

MR. ADAMS. I listened very closely to your lecture that you gave the witness this morning. For your information, sir, my ancestors and relatives have died in every war in this country since the French and Indian War. I feel that my patriotism, my love of America is as great as any person. I think possibly, besides yourself and your family, the death of your son would be regretted by myself as much as anyone in this world.

I regret that people on both sides of this terrific struggle between communism and capitalism are so shortsighted, are so vicious and have such hatred in their hearts that they are going to inevitably cause a clash between these two forces, and when that day comes, and it has already come, that brave men on both sides will die, and I think that we all regret that. And, sir, it isn't a question of being a great American or being a patriot, it is a question of having love for your fellow man and trying to see the way clear to do something that will head off this inevitable clash that is building up between these two great forces in the modern world today. And I can only say to you that I

disagree with your method of trying to combat communism in America, because you know as well as I do that every time unemployment increases a million people you make 10,000 potential Communists. And with unemployment going up as it has in the past year or so, five or six or seven million, you will make more Communists than this committee can ferret out in 10, 20 years. So the thing to do is stop the economic ills of the world, that stops communism.

MR. DOYLE. Well, I remember in April you did relate your inheritance background, at least briefly. I think I am clear on that recollection. But I did notice in your brief relating of circumstances under which you are back here today that you emphasized that you didn't want to come up or you didn't want to fight alone the position of 435 Members of the House and carry the case clear to the Supreme Court, and so forth. You made no mention of any desire to help your Congress.

MR. ADAMS. That is correct.

MR. DOYLE. As I say, I couldn't help but notice that you didn't take time to relate that you have come to the conclusion for those or any other reasons you felt perhaps it was your duty and privilege to help this committee against subversive activity. We have not forced you to say a word today, you volunteered.

MR. ADAMS. I see what you are getting at, Congressman. My difference of opinion developed with the Communists in 1945 and 1946; it hasn't changed. However, my attitude toward committees is this, and my attitude toward the right of Congress to sponsor committees has not changed in that respect, and certainly when you come here with the force of the Federal Government behind you and with all that that entails it would be very easy for me to say, well, Congressman—and as a lawyer you appreciate this—I shall rely on the fifth amendment and will tell you nothing. However, I don't believe that anything that I ever did in my life would tend to incriminate me in any degree, so therefore personally I could not in good moral conscience rely on the fifth amendment as to my own activity.

However, I think it is moral—in other words, I feel that there is only room for one kiss-and-tell man in California, and I think that the Federal Government is morally wrong to force me, under the threat of criminal prosecution, to do what you have forced me to do today. I think that it is morally wrong for Congress to do it. However, that is my opinion and Congress disagrees with me, so I am not about to put myself in a position where you can go to the Federal Attorney General and indict me and have the case grind along up through the Federal courts of the United States, because life is too short to go through that.

MR. DOYLE. In other words, 435 men may be right?

MR. ADAMS. Or they may be wrong.

MR. DOYLE. And you may be right or you may be wrong?

MR. ADAMS. That is correct, only history will say, Mr. Doyle.

MR. DOYLE. Thank you very much.

MR. ADAMS. Thank you, sir.

MR. DOYLE. Now, one more question: What year was it you were expelled from the Communist Party the second time?

MR. ADAMS. I was expelled in the early part of 1946.

MR. JACKSON. Let me say, Mr. Adams, that it was not economic consideration; it was not men who were unemployed, who were hungry, who stole from the top-secret files of this Government the secrets which might well cost the lives of untold millions of people. These



were men who were dedicated to the destruction of the American constitutional form of government. They were not the hungry itinerants on park benches to which you had reference; these were men—Alger Hiss, Harry Dexter White, Lauchlin Currie, men of that stripe—to whom this country had given every conceivable advantage; men who were drawing their stipend from the very Government they were attempting to destroy. I think this committee and other committees are doing a disagreeable job. It is no pleasure for us to hale before us an intelligent man of ability such as yourself and to be charged in some quarters with persecution. We are appointed to these committees. I think the record should show that the basis for your citation was not that we were at all interested in persecuting you or sending you to jail. It was in the Supreme Court finding, *United States v. Rogers*, in explaining your own participation in what has been found to be a conspiracy, and in declining further to discuss the activities of others you have waived your immunity. Had you not been cited by Congress, we would be placed in the position of having to overlook in the future every witness who appeared before us and refused to answer questions. There is no personal animus today as between the members of this subcommittee and yourself on our part. I want that in the record—that this is not a clash of personalities.

MR. ADAMS. May I say, Mr. Jackson, that I fully understand as much as you, and, although I might disagree, I would certainly have no personal animosity toward you, and I feel that you have no personal animosity toward me, as much as I might deplore your political inclination and as much as you might deplore my political convictions. Now, to go back, you are, I believe you said, a member of the Armed Services Committee.

MR. JACKSON. No; I am not. Mr. Doyle is.

MR. ADAMS. You are aware that our Government spends literally millions and possibly in the billions at the present time in an effort to secure information from our potential enemies. We set up spy systems, they set up spy systems, and when you talk about the people who stole the secrets, whether they stole them through an ideological conviction that they were doing something right or whether they stole because they were bought and paid for, I have no knowledge of that, but I will say this thing I spoke about before where this constant hate between people and countries is being engendered, certainly hatred is the most dangerous thing. I wouldn't be surprised to open the newspaper and find that top officials in our Government have been disclosed as spies because it is entirely possible. It doesn't spring entirely from the thing that you believe it does, and that is why I think that frankly your committee is like a flivver in the snow—it is just spinning its wheels getting no place.

MR. JACKSON. Well, we uncover a little mud. Let me say this: A great many people have been concerned for many, many years not over any propensity which might plunge the world into another war. I think we who served in war abhor it more than the men who take the soapboxes. In the words of Lenin himself, "It is inconceivable that the Soviet Union and the United States can long exist in the same world."

MR. ADAMS. Mr. Jackson, I have forgotten more about communism that you ever knew, and I fully appreciate what Lenin says, and I



fully appreciate that socialism and communism shall not exist eventually side by side. Eventually one of the other is going to have to conquer. Inevitably I think there is going to be a terrific clash. All I am pleading for is a little sanity to see if there isn't some way out of the predicament the world is in.

Mr. JACKSON. We will try to proceed in a nonhysterical fashion.

Mr. ADAMS. I can also quote you any number of officials who say capitalism can't exist with communism, so the leaders on both sides, I believe, have said that we can't live in the same world together.

Mr. JACKSON. Of course, we don't have prophets in this system who fall into the same category as Lenin does in the galaxy of the Communist state. We have people voicing all sorts of opinions in this country, and that is a good condition. This is academic to the extent that a couple of us are going to miss a plane.

Mr. ADAMS. After the First World War the Russians went Communist; the Second World War Eastern Europe went Communist; subsequent thereto China went Communist; subsequently we have lost part of Indochina. We didn't succeed in Korea. My thesis is war breeds communism. The first thing they should try to do is stop war.

Mr. DOYLE. May I make this remark, Mr. Chairman, in closing, to Mr. Adams. I am sure any lawyer will understand it. I hope the time will come in your life, in your rich experience, when you will not leave your appearance before this committee and make a reappearance on the basis of the possible outcome of a contempt citation and indictment. In other words, I hope the time will come with you, because there are great opportunities in your profession because you have great opportunities for leadership, and I hope that your leadership will be directed in point of cooperating with the lawful procedures of your own Nation, even to the extent of helping congressional committees trying to do a difficult job in a fair manner, rather than just doing it as a matter of saving yourself inconveniences.

Mr. ADAMS. Thank you, Mr. Doyle.

Mr. JACKSON. Is there anything further?

Mr. WHEELER. Nothing further, sir.

Mr. JACKSON. The subcommittee will direct the reporter, in addition to the regular number of copies, that he furnish a copy to the Office of the Attorney General of the United States, and the United States attorney in Los Angeles.

Thanks from the committee. You are excused from further appearance under the subpoena.

Mr. ADAMS. Thank you.

Mr. JACKSON. At this time both Mr. Doyle and I would like to thank the audience in the hearing room for their fine deportment during the course of the day; also our thanks to the sheriff's office and the office of the chief of police, the San Diego Police Department, for the officers who have been on duty here in the hearing room, to the chamber of commerce for their kindness in making this room available to us today for our hearing.

With that the subcommittee will stand in adjournment subject to call of the Chair.

(Whereupon the subcommittee adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.)



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